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SEPTEMBER 2026

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Mountain Monthly

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OCTOBER 26 ISSUE DEADLINE

15 SEPTEMBER 2025

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Preparing your chickens for H5N1 avian influenza

As everyone is aware, the H5N1 strain of influenza has now reached Australia. At the time of writing, infected birds have mainly been found in coastal regions but it is almost inevitable in the months ahead that it will spread inland and reach the Kinglake area and surrounds.

We know a lot of residents in the area keep chickens. One of the advantages of living in our part of the world is having the space to share with these little modern-day dinosaurs, being able to watch their everyday antics and enjoy a supply of fresh eggs straight from the coop.

While we are yet to find out how vulnerable our native birds and wildlife are to this virus, the lessons from overseas suggest that poultry will be hit particularly hard. Most infected chickens die within 48

hours of becoming unwell and infection is capable of spreading quickly through all members of the flock.

To reduce the chance of your backyard flock becoming infected, now is the time to take measures to protect your chickens. The biggest risk of infection will be from contact with wild birds but contaminated food, water and equipment are also possible sources.

Steps to take now to prepare your flock to reduce risks:

- Prevent access of wild birds into your chicken pen. This can be done by covering the area with mesh fine enough to prevent small birds from entering. A solid roof is preferable to prevent droppings from falling through the wire.
- Secure food supplies. Store chicken feed, preferably in a sealed container, in an

area that wild birds are unable to access. Consider training your birds to use treadle feeders to reduce any spillage within their enclosure.

- Do not feed your chickens scraps that contain meat or egg products.
- Source water from a deep bore or mains water if available. Unfortunately in our region tank water is common and the usual filters are not capable of removing virus particles. UV sterilisation, chemical treatments or boiling water can eliminate risk – consult an expert on an appropriate way of doing this.
- Prepare a quarantine area where you can house birds away from the main flock (at least 10m away and preferably with a solid barrier between). The quarantine area should not be in your home due to

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Time For Action on Regional Telco Services

If you have battled with poor mobile phone reception, unreliable internet and gone through the frustrating process of trying to have an issue fixed and failed, you are not wrong, according to Telecommunications Ombudsman, Cynthia Gebert.

She is calling on the Federal Government to overhaul the telco regulatory framework to ensure it is fit for purpose in an increasingly digital and mobile-first Australia, and to ensure people in regional, rural and remote communities are not left behind.

The more than 26,000 complaints the Ombudsman received in 2025/26 demonstrate that regional, rural and remote customers are being left without connection to emergency services; businesses are suffering from outages; and there is a bleak general picture for the 7 million people who live outside major cities.

"Regional, rural and remote Australians help feed the nation, power industries and keep our diversity thriving, and this is an integral part of what makes Australia great. "Reliable telecommunications are not a luxury for these communities, they're essential infrastructure for safety, economic participation and everyday life", Ms Gebert says.

The latest report from the TIO, "Left behind: Experiences of telco consumers living in regional, rural and remote Australia" analyses 26,972 phone and internet complaints over the last two financial years and reveals place-based barriers to getting help and limited options are taking a major toll.

The report identifies four major challenges facing regional consumers:

- **Remoteness makes everyday telco issues harder to resolve**, with consumers often facing lengthy delays for technician appointments, repeated cancellations and difficulties accessing in-store support.

- **Mobile connectivity remains unreliable**, with poor coverage continuing to be a common source of complaints and creating significant safety and productivity concerns.

- **Limited choice and low awareness of available technologies** can leave consumers without suitable or affordable alternatives when services fail.

- **Outages and unreliable services create significant safety risks and business disruption**, particularly where consumers rely on telecommunications to contact emergency services, run businesses or stay connected to their communities.

Recommendations

The report makes 12 recommendations for telcos, the ACMA and government, including:

- A comprehensive review of the telco regulatory framework including a focus on addressing place-based disadvantages
- Compensation payable directly to consumers where standards for internet broadband services aren't met
- Remedies for significant mobile access delays where standards aren't met
- Investment in tailored digital literacy programs
- Better community education about emergency communications

"Australia's telco regulatory framework has evolved piece-by-piece over many years. We now need to have a conversation about the system as a whole.

"Change is needed to deliver the reliable, accessible and resilient services people in regional, rural and remote Australia need today, and into the future", Ms Gebert says.

She said that people in the regions are practical and resilient, they can accept services don't always work perfectly.

"What makes them feel left behind is being asked to accept less – fewer choices, less support and more uncertainty around access to affordable and reliable phone and internet".

While the telecommunications sector has evolved significantly in response to technological innovation and changing market dynamics, the industry's regulations have developed piece by piece, and its regulatory framework has not been subject to a root-and-branch review for some time.

A review should aim to reduce complexity and explore topics including the reliability of mobile services, the access to and ownership of network infrastructure, and related issues of sovereignty.

The review should also consider the long-term interests of regional, rural and remote consumers, including encouraging investment in infrastructure to support emerging technologies.

Timely to this report, the ACCC has announced a new inquiry examining regional mobile coverage and whether it should declare one or more wholesale mobile services, including domestic roaming, under a telecommunications access regime.

Ms Gebert said that reforms such as mandatory domestic roaming may address some of the concerns raised in

the report, but a broader review is still required.

While a root-and-branch review of the telecommunications framework would benefit all consumers, there are particular benefits for regional, rural and remote consumers, who are among the most vulnerable to telco changes and who have the fewest options when services go down or their telco equipment is made redundant.

Concerns have been raised across the industry in the last 12 months around ensuring consumers have reliable access to emergency services via Triple Zero. In regional, rural and remote areas, these concerns are not new.

Ms Gebert said community members have reported that Triple Zero concerns existed in the bush long before the Optus outage on 18 September 2025.

Consumers from these areas said that when emergency services can be such great distances away, it can be just as important for them to be able to contact their family members and neighbours as it is to contact Triple Zero.

The ability to get help from (or warn) family and friends means an emergency can be prevented before it happens, and this eases the strain on emergency services.

This cannot happen without a reliable telco service.

Serious consequences for businesses

Outages and service disruptions also dramatically affect businesses operating in regional, rural and remote areas.

Outages mean businesses cannot process EFTPOS transactions, can't place orders with suppliers, or miss out on key sales of livestock because they can't receive calls. Outages may also cause businesses to fall short of their workplace health and safety obligations if they can't reliably contact staff or call Triple Zero.

The Telecommunications Industry Ombudsman is a free and independent dispute resolution service for people and small businesses who have an unresolved complaint with their phone or internet service.

You can complain through the website at: www.tio.com.au or by calling 1800 062 058.

You can post a letter to:
PO Box 276, Collins Street West, VIC 8007
or fax it to 1800 630 614.

If you need to use a language other than English, call the Translating and Interpreting Service on **134 450** and they will help you.

What's on Kinglake Ranges Events SEPTEMBER 2026

5 Bird Box Building Day	6 Fathers' Day	13 St Andrews Film Festival	15 Mountain Monthly Deadline	19-20 Yea Garden Expo	19 Kinglake Library holiday program begins	21- 2 Oct School holidays	27 Kinglake Market
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MEETINGS

Kinglake Trust Reserve Inc. & Ellimatta Centre Notice of Annual General Meeting

Notice of AGM – To Elect Committee

Kinglake Trust Reserve Inc. will be holding its Annual General Meeting to elect the Kinglake Trust Reserve Committee for the next 12 months.

Date: Monday 19 October 2026

Time: 7:30pm

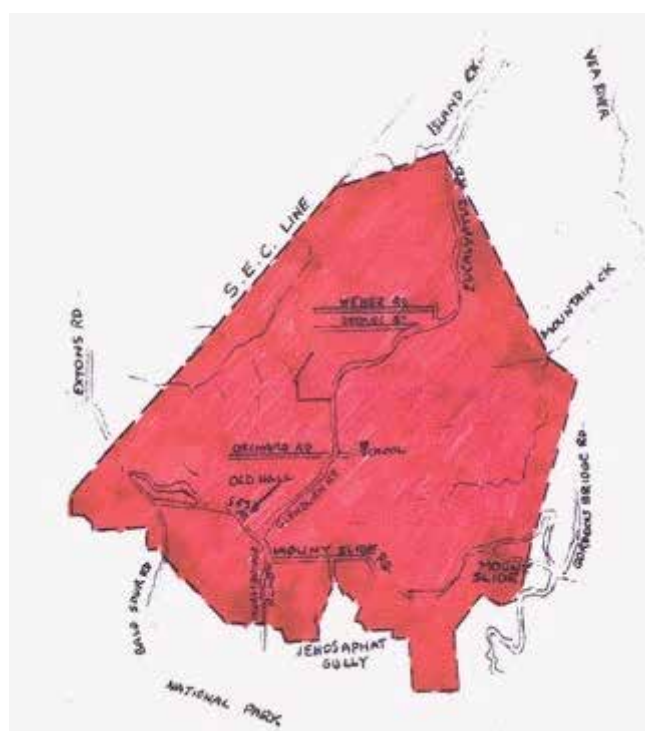
Building: Ellimatta Centre at Kinglake Trust Reserve

Address: 94 Whittlesea-Kinglake Road, Kinglake

Eligibility to Stand

To be eligible to be a committee member of the Kinglake Trust Reserve Inc., you must live within the area as defined by the dotted lines on the below map.

If you would like to be involved and require further information please contact us at kinglaketrustreserveinc@gmail.com



Ellimatta Centre – For Hire

Ellimatta Centre and Kinglake Trust Reserve is available to hire for events, to community groups, individuals and businesses. For all hiring details, availability and bookings please contact: Mobile 0493 720 595 or email kinglaketrustreserveinc@gmail.com

Wayne Harvey, President
Kinglake Trust Reserve Inc.

MEETINGS

Notice of AGM

The Kinglake West Mechanics Institute and Reserves Committee will hold its Triennial meeting at 1400hrs at the Kinglake West Mechanics Institute on Monday 28 September.

Nominations for a minimum of 3 and maximum of 9 members from the community opened on Monday 24 August and close at 1700hrs on Friday 18 September.

Nominations must be delivered to the secretary, Jackie Maughan PO Box 108, Pheasant Creek 3757 and be in writing on certified Nomination forms along with a signed DEECA declaration which can be obtained from the secretary Jackie Maughan on 0357865513, or via mail at PO Box 108, Pheasant Creek 3757.

If sufficient nominations are not received by close of nominations, further nominations will called for at the meeting.

PUBLIC NOTICE

Help Us Update Our Community Directory

At *Mountain Monthly* we are updating our Community & Emergency Contact Numbers.

These important numbers and email addresses change over time.

New services and groups are also put in place.

This updated directory will take time to consolidate, but in order to provide our readers with the best at-a-glance guide, we urge you to check contact details are current and correct for your group.

You may wish to add your community group to the listings.

Please note that these are not business listings that fall within our Local Business Directory.

Email any changes or requests for inclusion to janedoconnor485@gmail.com

Mountain Monthly

OCTOBER 2026

DEADLINE 15 SEPTEMBER

Kinglake Ward Council By-election

A by-election will be held for the Kinglake Ward of Murrindindi Shire Council following the resignation of Councillor Jodi Adams.

Cr Adams' resignation was effective from 12 August and creates an extraordinary vacancy in Kinglake Ward. As Kinglake Ward is a single-councillor ward, the vacancy will be filled through a by-election conducted by the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC).

The Council will work with the VEC to facilitate the election process.

Information regarding key dates, candidate nominations and voting arrangements will be published once confirmed.

The VEC says that a by-election is held to elect a new councillor when a councillor resigns or can't complete their term in a single-councillor ward, and there are more than six months before the next general council election.

The next local government elections in Victoria are not due until October 2028.

Anyone wishing to nominate as a

candidate for the by-election must complete Local Government Candidate Training before they are able to nominate.

The VEC publishes a range of guidance material for candidates.

Cr Adams was elected in the Kinglake Ward in October 2024 and held the council's Community Wellbeing portfolio. She had been on personal leave from the council prior to her resignation.

www.vec.vic.gov.au

www.localgovernment.vic.gov.au

Council Responds to Kinglake-Glenburn Road Safety Concerns

Murrindindi Shire Council says it is waiting on final approvals from the Department of Transport and Planning to implement lowered speed limits and other safety measures on Kinglake-Glenburn Road and West Bridge Road.

In the August edition of MM, residents in the area called on the council to take immediate action after more than two years of reporting serious safety concerns related to the current 80 km/h and 100 km/h speed limits through the rural residential area and Kinglake National Park.

The road borders the National Park and is used daily by families, school children walking to the bus stop, farmers in slow moving vehicles, and residents who have no footpaths or safe shoulder, forcing them to walk directly on the road. The area also experiences heavy wildlife movement, resulting in frequent roadkill and dangerous driver evasions.

The road is also a popular route for car clubs and motorbike groups, with many vehicles travelling well above the posted limit and overtaking dangerously on blind bends, forcing residents and wildlife to react quickly.

The council said that through the TAC's Safer Local Roads and Streets Program, it has developed a proposal that combines speed limit reductions with targeted infrastructure improvements designed to improve safety for motorists, cyclists and pedestrians.

The proposal to reduce speed limits and improve safety along this section of road has been under development since July 2025 and has involved consultation with the local community, Victoria Police, the Transport Accident Commission (TAC) and the Department of Transport and Planning (DTP). Council continues to work closely with the Department to progress the remaining approvals required to deliver the project.

The proposed works include:

- extending the existing 50 km/h speed zone further north past the Orchards Road intersection
- reducing the speed limit from 80 km/h to 60 km/h in areas with closer property frontages
- reducing the speed limit from 100 km/h to 80 km/h on winding sections of the road
- installing additional guideposts, curve

warning signs and advisory speed signage to improve visibility of sub-standard curves

- sealing the bell-mouth at the Orchards Road intersection

- introducing kerb and channel adjacent to the shared path near Thomson Lane and Hawkins Drive to improve separation between cyclists and traffic, subject to available project funding.

Following development of the proposal, Victoria Police has endorsed the speed limit changes, and the project received funding approval from the TAC in January 2026.

The proposal is now awaiting approval from the Department of Transport and Planning for the proposed speed limit changes. As the Department is the responsible authority for approving speed limit changes on this road, Council cannot finalise the detailed design or commence delivery until that approval is received.

Council remains committed to working with the Department of Transport and Planning and other partners to progress this project and will keep the community informed as it moves through the remaining approval process.

Road Repairs Continue After January Fires

If you are travelling around the shire, the Council is asking motorists and visitors to be aware that significant work is continuing to repair and reopen the shire's fire-affected road network after the January bushfires.

The Council has assessed 451 kilometres of council-managed roads in the fire impacted area, with 405 kilometres requiring works of varying scale.

Of the affected network, 164 kilometres of roads require repairs to road surfaces and infrastructure, while a further 242 kilometres need replacement signs and guideposts. Of the 132 impacted roads, 62

have reopened to the public.

The scale of damage extends beyond the road network. Council has completed inspections of 84 road bridges, with 55 found to be impacted and nine requiring full replacement or significant repairs.

On the popular attraction – the Great Victorian Rail Trail – 27 bridges have been inspected, with 15 impacted and three requiring full replacement.

Fire-affected roads can remain unpredictable due to damaged surfaces, subsequent heavy rainfall, missing guideposts, barriers, signage and line marking, as well as culverts, drainage and

fencing. Some culverts have collapsed, or remain at risk of collapse, making conditions especially dangerous after dark.

Mayor, Cr Damien Gallagher, said while the works continue everyone travelling through fire-affected areas is asked to take extra care, check current road conditions before setting out and follow all road closures and restrictions.

For current information about road access and closures in fire-affected areas, visit Council's January 2026 bushfire road access and closures webpage, www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/fireimpactedroads

Bird Flu Alert

The number of cases are changing rapidly; our poultry industry is on alert; vets, wildlife rescuers and carers are also on the frontline and it's not a case of if it reaches our area, but when.

Cases of H5 bird flu - also known as H5 high pathogenicity avian influenza - is a strain that overseas, has caused severe disease and high death rates in poultry, wild birds and other wildlife.

Human cases are rare and the virus does not spread easily between people.

Its effects in specific regions here are still emerging and what we can all do to stay alert and help our agricultural, biosecurity and wildlife authorities deal with it is crucial.

Agriculture Victoria has released comprehensive guides as the state's commercial poultry industry locks down and also guides on what to look out for.

And, in this edition we provide your local guide on how to keep your backyard poultry safe.

But, for the general public, the basic rules in regard to birds and wildlife are simple.

If you see sick or dead birds or other wildlife, do not touch them.

• **Avoid direct contact.**

• **Record what you see.**

• **Report it to the Emergency Animal Disease Hotline immediately - 1800 675 888 - or use the form that's available on the Agriculture Victoria website.**

Uncertainty remains about how H5 bird flu will affect Australia's unique animals, but we can make some predictions based on patterns observed elsewhere - and the impacts could be devastating for local wildlife.

Marsupials that are predators or scavengers (for example, Tasmanian devils and quolls) are expected to be more at risk than plant-eating marsupials like kangaroos, or invertebrate feeders like platypus and echidnas.

No cases of illness in bats have been reported overseas and only a few species of rodent have reportedly been affected worldwide.

Response activities following detections of H5 bird flu in wildlife will depend on the specifics of the outbreak but may include: enhanced biosecurity and hygiene measures; enhanced disease surveillance; carcass management; emergency conservation measures and restriction on visitors and activities at certain sites or wildlife populations.

Because wildlife that become sick with

H5 bird flu have a poor prognosis for recovery, ongoing conservation actions supporting wildlife protection from co-existing threats (such as invasive predators or habitat impacts), including safeguarding captive populations, are critical to promoting population resilience in the event of a bird flu outbreak.

What about our pets?

H5 bird flu mainly affects birds. Pet birds (including backyard chickens) and other domestic animals (such as cats and dogs) can get sick if they eat or interact with infected animals.

To help protect your pets and wildlife:

- keep dogs on a leash, especially near wild birds, and keep cats indoors
- if you've had direct contact with sick or dead birds, shower and change clothes before touching your pets
- prevent wild birds from interacting with your pets
- prevent wild birds from accessing your pet's food and water
- don't let pets eat or touch sick or dead animals

If your pet gets sick after interacting with wild birds, keep them away from children and other animals and contact your vet.

Preparing your chickens for H5N1 avian influenza CONTINUED FROM PAGE 4

the small but significant risk of the virus transmitting to people. If you have a small flock, a large dog crate set up in a separate shed may be sufficient in an emergency.

• Buy PPE (personal protective equipment) to have on hand if needed. Gloves, eye protection (goggles or visors), masks (P2 or N95 standard) and protective gowns should be in your kit.

• Thoroughly clean any equipment you bring into the coop with a disinfectant that is animal safe and effective against viruses (F10, Safe4 and Virkon S are examples)

• The virus can also be introduced into your flock on your body or clothing. Avoid handling wild birds or birds belonging to other people. Wash your hands thoroughly before tending to your flock and disinfect any footwear. Preferably have exclusive footwear and clothing to wear into the chicken yard to further reduce risk.

• Consider confining your birds within their secure area, even if they are used to free ranging. Reducing contact with wild birds will decrease the risk of transmission occurring, particularly if the infection rate in wild birds is high. Of course your chickens will protest very loudly about this but consider ways of making their pen more interesting and providing activities that will keep them busy. Search for 'chicken enrichment activities' on the internet for some inspiration.

If you do confine your chickens to reduce the risk, you will need to take steps to make sure they do not develop other health issues that may become more likely from being locked up.

• If you have egg-laying chickens that normally obtain a lot of nutrition from foraging while free-ranging, consider switching to a higher protein pellet (greater than 16% protein) to make up for what they are missing out on. You can also throw them some mealworms or other high-protein snacks to enjoy.

• While it may feel safer to keep your

chickens in a fully enclosed area, it is important to maintain good ventilation to prevent respiratory issues. If you walk into your chicken's pen and the odour is overpowering it may indicate that ventilation is inadequate and needs to be improved.

• Keep the pen clean and make sure you worm your chickens. If your chickens are confined you may need to do this more regularly or risk running into health issues such as coccidiosis and other causes of diarrhoea.

For up to date information visit the Agriculture Victoria webpage dedicated to backyard chicken owners

<https://agriculture.vic.gov.au/biosecurity/animal-diseases/poultry-diseases/H5N1-avian-influenza-H5-bird-flu/avian-influenza-information-for-backyard-poultry-owners>

Next month we will discuss recommendations on what to do if one of your chickens become unwell.

Mountain Ranges Vet Clinic

Time For Action on Fire Enquiry Findings

It is now time for the Victorian Government to turn its findings from its enquiry into the January 2026 bushfires into action, Murrindindi Shire Mayor, Cr Damien Gallagher, says.

Cr Gallagher said the report reflects the experiences shared by fire-affected communities and provides a strong foundation for improving disaster recovery across Victoria.

But, the focus must now turn to action.

“The important thing now is for the Victorian Government to turn these recommendations into practical improvements that people actually notice on the ground”.

The report reflects evidence provided throughout the Inquiry by local residents, farmers, volunteers, community organisations, neighbourhood houses, emergency services, businesses and Council. It acknowledges that recovery extends well beyond the emergency response and that support should better reflect the level of impact experienced by individual communities.

As one of the most heavily impacted shires in the January fires, Cr Gallagher said that for many people across Murrindindi, the recovery is far from over.

“Seeing those experiences recognised by Parliament is important, but what really matters now is putting those lessons into practice”.

Council welcomed the Inquiry’s recommendation that recovery funding be reviewed as the true scale of damage and community need becomes clearer, and that future funding better reflects the impact experienced by individual communities.

“Every major disaster is different, and communities recover at different speeds because they experience different levels of loss.

“If recovery support is based on impact rather than assumptions made in the first few weeks after a disaster, communities have a much better chance of rebuilding well”.

The report also recognises the extraordinary contribution of volunteers, neighbourhood houses, community organisations, sporting clubs, businesses, recovery hubs and local leaders throughout Murrindindi’s recovery.

“People often talk about resilience as though communities

simply find it when disaster strikes. The reality is resilience is built over many years through trusted relationships, strong local organisations and neighbours looking after neighbours.

“Community resilience is one of our greatest strengths, but it should never become a substitute for government responsibility”.

Council also welcomed the report’s recognition of the expanding role local government now plays during disasters and throughout long-term recovery.

“Rural councils are now expected to coordinate recovery, restore infrastructure, support businesses, strengthen community wellbeing and help communities rebuild, often for years after the emergency has passed”, Cr Gallagher said.

“These responsibilities have grown significantly. The funding and capability available to councils must grow with them”.

He said the enquiry’s success would ultimately depend on implementation.

Council will continue advocating for:

- implementation of the Inquiry’s recommendations;
- a transparent, impact-based recovery funding model;
- sustainable funding for the long-term recovery role of rural councils;
- stronger support for community hubs and locally led recovery; and
- a clear implementation roadmap so communities can see how recommendations are being delivered.

“If the lessons learned in Murrindindi help strengthen Victoria’s emergency management system, every community facing future disasters will be better prepared and better supported.

“No community wants to become an expert in disaster recovery. The real measure of success will be whether these recommendations are turned into practical improvements before the next emergency”.

The full Inquiry into the 2026 Summer Fires report can be accessed via the Victorian Parliament website:<https://www.parliament.vic.gov.au/parliamentary-activity/tailed-documents-database/tailed-document-details/10329>

New 5 Year Program to Support Children, Young People and Families

Murrindindi Shire Council has received \$500,000 in funding over 5 years for a program to design and deliver initiatives support the health and wellbeing outcomes for children, young people and families.

The State Government grant will support initiatives that strengthen the systems, relationships, and environments that influence health outcomes across the municipality.

The project recognises that the health challenges faced by our communities can’t be resolved through individual programs alone, and that lasting change requires collaboration and commitment across organisations, services and the community.

The council says that by working alongside community partners and local stakeholders, it will help design and deliver initiatives that respond to local needs and strengthens the support systems available to children and families.

“Throughout the project, Council will work closely with

community members, service providers and key stakeholders to ensure local knowledge and experience shape future initiatives.

“By strengthening partnerships and creating more consistent support networks, the project aims to deliver long-term benefits for children, families and the broader Murrindindi community”.

Community members will have opportunities to provide feedback and participate throughout the life of the project. Further information about the project and engagement opportunities will be shared as they become available.

Mayor, Cr Damien Gallagher, acknowledged this is an exciting and important investment in the future of our community, and said it recognises that lasting change happens when organisations, services and communities work together to address the factors that influence health and wellbeing.

For more information about the Partners in Place initiative, visit vichealth.vic.gov.au



Live bands most weekends
Sunday Solo most Sunday
Open Mic on the First Sunday of each Month







MONDAY

- Homework Club (kids can come from 5pm and get help with their learning)
- Trivia from 7pm

WEDNESDAY

Darts and Meat Raffle

THURSDAY

Classic Movie night (every second week) from 7.30pm

FRIDAY

Joker Poker

EVERYDAY

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The Downturn Has a Postcode – Ours Reads Four Different Ways

If you have been reading the national headlines this month you would be forgiven for thinking every home in Australia is losing value.

National dwelling values fell 0.7% in July, the steepest single month drop since December 2022, and prices now sit around 2% below their March peak. NAB has downgraded its outlook to a 10% peak to trough fall across Sydney and Melbourne. The Reserve Bank held the cash rate at 4.35% on 11 August, with Michele Bullock warning prices have further to fall.

That is the national story. But there are 1000 micro markets inside the real estate market. It's not one story, it's not our story, and the numbers from our own four suburbs make the point better than I can.

Yarra Glen finished the twelve months to July at a median of \$978,750, up 8.8%, with

houses selling in 38 days.

Units there are up 20.7% to \$725,000. Healesville houses eased 0.6% to \$810,000, but its units climbed 20.1% and the suburb drew 2,304 active buyers last month. Kinglake West sits at \$945,000, up 0.7%, though with 17 sales and 106 days on market it is a thin, patient market.

Kinglake is the outlier, back 7.2% to \$768,500, due to cheap land sales, but with 41 sales, 851 buyers watching and 60 days to sell, the demand is plainly there.

What has changed is the price buyers will pay for it. Across Victoria the clearance rate came in at 57% last weekend from 662 results, up from 50% at the bottom, alongside 1,378 private sales.

That ratio matters. Nationally the share of homes taken to auction has fallen from almost 45% last November to just over 30% in June, as vendors

decide they would rather not test the market in public.

In our patch private treaty has always dominated, and right now that is an advantage. The falls are concentrated at the top.

In Melbourne the most expensive quarter of the market is down 4.6% over three months while the cheapest quarter is down just 1.2%, which is exactly why our entry level stock has held.

And national number of listings are up roughly 23 per cent year on year, so buyers have more choice than they have had in a long time. This is particularly true in the upsize market.

Families looking to extend themselves to get into educational sectors for school next year will benefit from this choice. The Covid baby cohort is quite a large group, but they are still comparing properties, and taking their time to sell



and find the right property for the last 30 year mortgage of their lives.

So what does it mean if you are thinking of selling? Price to the evidence, not to what your neighbour achieved in 2024. Vendor discounting is averaging 3.5% nationally, and the properties landing near that figure are the ones that started realistically. Presentation and marketing are doing more work than they were 12 months ago, because buyers have slowed down and are comparing carefully. And if you are selling and buying in the same market, the gap between the two has rarely mattered less.

Will Verhagen
www.integrityrealestate.com.au

FINANCE REPORT

NON CONFORMING LENDING EXPLAINED

Have you had bad credit?

Had Defaults? Or Tax Debt issues?

Been Bankrupt?

Or just simply might not fit "in the box" for mainstream lending?

This is where Non Conforming Lenders come into play (they offer home loans that don't typically conform to larger lenders).

I explain to clients we have a Triangle of Lenders - at the top we have Mainstream Big 4 (or 6 Lenders) that everyone is aware of; the middle of the Triangle is the Second Tier lenders - these are generally Credit Unions & Non branch lenders (online based Lenders); and the base of the triangle is the Non Conforming

Lenders.

These lenders are designed to help assist clients that may not fit the Mainstream or Second Tier Lending space. Thankfully I love working in all three areas of the Triangle of Lenders and the Non Conforming space is one of my favourites.

This being said, the clients I speak with may be in financial hardship, really struggling, may in fact be close to losing their home, have large or small tax obligations they cannot meet, bad credit history/ or score, defaults, bankruptcy, have speciality income or complex self-employed structures.

The navigation around where you



'might fit' in regard to lender options is sometimes complex enough let alone working through other challenges.

These lenders offer a short-term solution for long-term gain and thereby might be the best option for your circumstances currently.

Noting, this is not always the right fit for all clients and would be a independent assessment based on your circumstances (as every client's situation is different to the next).

Nicole Sevenich, CRN No. 479851

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KINGLAKE CWA

SCHOOL HOLIDAY CREATIVE ACTIVITIES

Whether you are home schooled, go to school on or off the mountain – here's your opportunity to have fun with some school holiday activities. Bookings are essential as numbers are limited. In each case all materials supplied cost only \$5 per participant per class.

Venue 1 - Kinglake Library, 19 Whittlesea-Kinglake Road, Kinglake

Friday September 11 – 3.30pm-5pm

Create a Santa Native Animal Canvas artwork to decorate the Library Fence in conjunction with our Light Up Kinglake annual Christmas Tree Event. Your artwork will be on display in December and after that it is yours to keep.

Venue 2 - Kinglake Ranges Neighbourhood House, 6 McMahons Road, Kinglake

Tuesday September 22 – 10am-12.30pm

Christmas Wreath – Paper Craft - A3 sized – ready for you to decorate a wall or door at home plus if time permits Christmas card or two for your favourite family members.

Thursday September 24 – 10 am to 12.30 pm

Create a Santa Native Animal Canvas artwork to help decorate the Library Fence in conjunction with our Light Up Kinglake annual Christmas Tree Event. Your artwork will be on display in December and after that it is yours to keep.

Monday September 28 – 10 am to 12.30 pm

Christmas Placemats - Using Christmas styled fabric, you will create at least two blocks which will become a special



Your artwork will help decorate Kinglake this Christmas

placemat. You create the design and the tutors will help with the finishing.

Wednesday September 30 – 10 am to 12.30 pm

Christmas Ornaments – painting by numbers you will create a set of ornaments ready to be hung on your home Christmas tree.

Biggest thanks to the Bendigo Bank Hurstbridge (which is now our local branch) for their contribution to the costs of these sessions. They might not be physically in Kinglake but they continue to support our community endeavours.

All tutors are members of Kinglake CWA, Kinglake Ranges Neighbourhood House or Murrindindi Shire Library and hold current working with children checks.

Please book with our wonderful Library staff or on line for Kinglake Ranges Neighbourhood House www.krnh.org/classes-events. Remember numbers are limited so get in early!

Contact us through our facebook page Kinglake CWA – email kinglakecwa@gmail.com or phone/text Chrissy 0408 729 580.

The Kinglake CWA Team



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Flowerdale Quilt Show

Once again, the Flowerdale Quilt Show will showcase the incredible talents of quilters from Murrindindi Shire and further afield.

Held the last weekend in October for over a decade, this is a major fundraiser for the Flowerdale CFA.

Proceeds have enabled this community group to purchase extra equipment and ensure dedicated volunteers have adequate training for the upcoming summer season.

This year there are 7 categories – no matter your preferred technique, there is a category to suit.

1. Traditional Piece Quilt – hand stitched and quilted
2. Any Pieced Quilt – machine sewn and quilted
3. Applique or Embroidered Quilt – hand or machine sewn/quilted
4. Novice – first quilt, any technique
5. Any wearable item – hand or machine sewn/quilted
6. Any other item – wall hanging, table runner, bed runner etc
7. Any item created by a junior under 15 years

In addition, you can vote for the Peoples' Choice Award and the judge will select Best in Show Award.

With an entry fee of \$8 for your first item and only \$4 for every article after that, you could share in awards and raffle items valued at over \$2,500. Entries can be marked for sale.

Entry forms can be obtained through Flowerdale Community House or phone 0408 729 580 and entries close 20 October, with delivery prior to judging on 23 October.

The display will be at Flowerdale Community House, 36 Silver Creek Road, on Saturday and Sunday 24 & 25 October from 10am to 4pm.

These events couldn't continue without our sponsors, Murrindindi Shire Council; Bendigo Bank; Shepparton Sewing Centre; Matilda's Own Products; Integrity Real Estate; Cindy McLeish MP; Kinglake CWA and a team of volunteers.



Flowerdale Community House



**36-42 Silver Creek Road
Flowerdale**

Phone 0490 941 247



**FLOWERDALE
QUILT SHOW**

Our Heritage

Remembering Schooldays

Eltham High School Centenary

**Fete and Open Day – Sunday 11
October 2026**

Among Kinglake residents and the MM readership, there are people of 'mature age' who have lasting memories of their schooldays at Eltham High School at some time in the years after 1947 until 1966, when Hurstbridge High School opened,

Before 1947, it was not possible for Kinglake children to go on from the local State schools to a secondary school unless their families could arrange for them to board with relatives or friends in the suburbs of Melbourne. At that time, the nearest secondary school to Kinglake was Eltham Higher Elementary School, which had been established in 1926, but there was no transport for students from Kinglake to Eltham.

The three Kinglake schools provided for Grades 1 to 8, the leaving age was 14 and pupils could sit for Merit Certificate examinations at the Kinglake Central school and leave school with that qualification. A few students could arrange to continue attending their local school and receive correspondence lessons up to the Intermediate Certificate level but this was unusual.

In 1945, the Headmaster and the School Committee at the Kinglake State School decided to campaign for transport for their students to attend the Eltham Higher Elementary School. Letters were written to the Education Department describing the deplorable disadvantage suffered by the children of Kinglake, a petition was signed and sent, and a deputation went to meet the Minister for Education. As a result, it was decided that, as long as there were at least 8 children to start, a bus would be provided from the Kinglake township to the Eltham school. The list of 8 children was sent to the Minister and the school bus transport began from the beginning of first term in 1947.

However, this did not benefit the families of Kinglake Central and Kinglake West who

were not able to take their children to and from the Kinglake township to catch the bus every school day. In the 1940s, not all families had cars, very few women drove and the men were at work from early morning till evening so not available for conveying children to and from the school bus. In fact, it was not until 1954 that the bus was extended to Kinglake West so that children from the other two schools could also travel to Eltham.

By that time, the Eltham Higher Elementary School had been declared a High School in 1950 with a Leaving Certificate class for the first time. The Kinglake bus left Kinglake West at 6.45am and was almost filled by the time it left the Kinglake township to start down the narrow winding unmade road to St Andrews. It then collected more students from St Andrews, Pantom Hill, Kangaroo Ground and Research.

By then, the bus was decidedly overcrowded and it was soon obvious that a second bus was necessary to start from Pantom Hill. From that time, the Kinglake bus could leave a little later but still, in winter, the Kinglake students left home in the dark and returned in the dark at about 5.45.

Despite the difficulties, Kinglake students appreciated their opportunity for an extended education and enjoyed the range of sports and extra-curricula activities at EHS. The school motto, 'Deeds Count', gave them a direction to follow through life, and the centenary celebrations will provide them with the chance to meet old friends and share memories of those days.

Deidre Hawkins
Kinglake Historical Society
kinglakehistoricalsociety@gmail.com



Eltham High School 1953



Kinglake school bus to EHS 1948

Kinglake Heritage Centre

**Kinglake West Reserve ~ Open Sundays 12 noon – 3pm
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The asset is sold on an "as is, where is" basis.
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Tenders close: 16 September 2026 at 2.00pm

Tender documents and inspection bookings:

Glenn Berry

Phone: 03 9716 2619

Email: manager@yanyancemetery.com.au

The highest tender will not
necessarily be accepted.

The Trust reserves the right to reject
any or all tenders.

What's on at Kinglake Library

September 2026

4 September | 3.45 pm

Shark Party

Join friends at the Shark Party to
celebrate the fun reading challenge.

16 September | 2.00 pm

Community Connectivity with nbn Local

Join us for a practical session on
staying safe online and understanding
digital connectivity.

19 - 26 September

Library Adventure Scavenger Hunt

28 September | 4.00 - 5.00 pm

Page Turners

Join in with other readers to discuss
and share your latest read in a relaxed
and friendly environment

29 September | 11.00 am

School Holidays - LEGO Masters

Create your own masterpieces

Book now at

murrindindi.vic.gov.au/libraries

5772 0333



Regular weekly programs

Mondays

Digital Literacy 11.00 am

Tuesdays

Storytime 10.30 am

Baby Bounce
(during school
terms)

Wednesdays

Boomerang Bags 10.00 am
2.00 pm

Fridays

Storytime 3-5 years 10.30 am
(during school
terms)

Craft Adults 2.00 pm

Craft School Aged 3.45 pm



Book now at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/libraries
Ph 5772 0333

What's on in September



Connect • Learn • Belong



Mortgage Stress & Debt Consolidation

If you want to get a hold on your finances & have a clearer understanding this presentation with Nicole may help.

Wed, 09 Sep 2026, 6:30pm – 8pm
Free

Playgroup

A fun and friendly playgroup for babies, toddlers and pre-schoolers and their parents and carers.

Thursdays 9:30am – 11:30am
Free



Gardening Group

Share knowledge, work together and enjoy our community garden.

Fridays 10:00am – 12:00pm
Free



Brew Crew

Join us for a cuppa and a chat. A friendly and welcoming social group.

Thursdays 2:00pm – 4:00pm
Free



Clay Club

Get creative and enjoy the therapeutic benefits of working with clay.

Tuesdays 6:30pm – 8:30pm
\$15 casual classes



Chair Pilates

Build strength, flexibility and wellbeing in a supportive environment.

Fridays 11:00am – 12:00pm
\$12 per session



Paper Craft

Join a friendly group and share your love of all things paper craft.

1st and 3rd Tuesdays of each month
10:00am – 12:00pm
\$15 per session



Fibre Friends

Knit, crochet and craft with others in a relaxed and friendly group.

2nd & 4th Tuesdays of each month
11:15am – 1:15pm
\$3 per session with your annual membership



Bird Box Building Day

Kinglake Landcare

Come along and help build bird boxes for our local wildlife.

Saturday 5 September
Starts 10:30am
with a light lunch provided **FREE**



Everyone welcome! 

Kinglake Ranges Neighbourhood House is a welcoming community hub offering programs and activities for all ages. Come along, meet new people, learn something new and be part of our community.



6 McMahons Rd,
Kinglake



5786 1301



www.KRNH.org



Rotary Club of Whittlesea – November Cambodian Tour

This November (8-21) will see two members of the Rotary Club of Whittlesea along with other Rotary members and volunteers make a humanitarian visit to Kampong Spue province, Cambodia, to assist the school of 220 students.

This province is one of the poorest in the country, yet one of the most beautiful.

The people are generous but blessed with little.

This school commenced its total upgrade in 2012 with Rotary assistance in a town with virtually no amenities, the ones we take for granted each day.

Intermittent electricity and no running water and no vehicles except trucks carting rocks through the town from the mountains.

The town prior to 2012 had no education and all children were illiterate.

Recently Rotary World of a Difference (WoD) installed new toilets in the school and made physical repairs to the school buildings.

This tour hopes to continue building repairs, cull and add library books, painting, instillation of a playground, student handwashing and dental hygiene education and donation of 10 laptops to the library.

We would welcome any donations to assist this project and any enquiries directed to: Lex – 0419 361 027

You can learn more, and perhaps consider volunteering on the tour at: <https://www.wod.org.au/itinerary>

ST ANDREWS FILM FESTIVAL – SUNDAY 13 SEPTEMBER 10am-5pm

Here is your chance to join a relaxed and entertaining community event.

On offer are two acclaimed international movies and a locally made documentary plus the chance to swap ideas and gossip over lunch and a cuppa. The three films all have a musical theme but with very different and often gripping storylines. As an added bonus, documentary-maker, Andrew Garton, will be with us to share his thoughts about the filmmaking process.

There is the opportunity to share lunch at local café A Boy Named Sue, with morning tea and afternoon tea included in the ticket price.

The films

‘My Brother’s Band’ is a French movie about a professional orchestra conductor who discovers he has a brother he’d never known of before, brought up in an entirely different social milieu. Music unites them, society pulls them apart.

‘The Choral’ is set in the UK at the time of the First World War when a community society attempts to boost the spirits of the townsfolk in unsettled times. This funny and moving film stars Ralph Fiennes and is directed by Nicholas Hytner.

We will meet Andrew Garton, a well-recognised film-maker from St Andrews. His documentary, ‘This Choir Sings Carols’, is set in Whittlesea and Epping and is a joyful celebration of our local and diverse community.

Everyone is invited to come along to have fun and a relaxing time.

Thanks to Bendigo Bank for supporting this community initiative.

Tickets available at <https://events.humanitix.com/st-andrews-film-festival>

Further information: www.standrewscommunitycentre.org/st-andrews-film-society

KINGLAKE OUTREACH SERVICE

Free Monthly support service for local residents

Diamond Valley Community Support (DVCS) is offering a free and confidential support service in Kinglake.

➤ How we can support you

- ✓ Accessing services and community support
- ✓ Help with applications and paperwork
- ✓ Information about services and funding
- ✓ And more

➤ Upcoming visit dates (10am – 4pm)

25th Aug | 29th Sep | 27th Oct | 24th Nov
15th Dec | 19th Jan (Future Dates TBA)

➤ Where to find us

Kinglake Library –
Murrindindi Shire Office
Main Street, Kinglake



TO BOOK CALL: (03) 9435 8282
– or just drop in on the day –
www.dvcsupport.org.au



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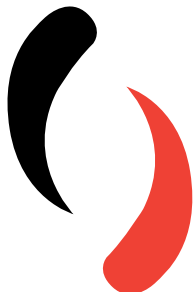
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MONDAY - FRIDAY 9AM - 5:30PM
SATURDAY 9AM - 12:30PM

Spring greetings!

At the time of writing this in early August, you may already be sensing winter's subtle transition. Mornings are crisp, often veiled in thick fog, before yielding to bright sunshine. The earth remains deeply cold, sometimes frozen, and gusting winds remind us that winter still lingers.

The Huangdi Inner Classic of Medicine teaches that health depends on living in harmony with the movements of Heaven and Earth. As spring approaches, the Yang Qi of Nature begins to rise, expand, and give life to the ten thousand things. Animals enter their mating season, plants awaken, and living beings respond with anticipation to this outward movement of Qi.

The Inner Classic advises us to nourish this ascending Yang. Our own Yang Qi follows nature, moving from the interior to the exterior to support growth, movement, and renewal. As this occurs, Yang Qi in the digestive Fire also shifts its focus on to external activities, making spring and summer the seasons appropriate for lighter, simpler foods that are easier to digest.

Cultural Heritage Worth a Thousand Pieces of Gold - A Brief Introduction to the Chinese Farmers' Calendar

For thousands of years, traditional cultures in the Yellow River basin have aligned their lives with the 24 movements of the Sun - the subtle turning of light and shadow as seen from Earth. This ancient rhythm guided farming, festivals, food, rest, and the cultivation of health and happiness.

I'd like to introduce the Chinese Farmers' Calendar, which is a useful guide for health cultivation practice. Our bodies mirror the movements of nature. When we observe nature carefully, we learn how to care for ourselves accordingly.

Spring Terms - Southern hemisphere dates are approximate

- Start of Spring (立春 - Lìchūn): 7 August
- Rain Water (雨水 - Yǔshuǐ): 23 August
- Awakening of Insects (惊蛰 - Jīngzhé): 7 September
- Vernal Equinox (春分 - Chūnfēn): 23 September
- Clear and Bright (清明 - Qīngmíng): 7 October
- Grain Rain (谷雨 - Gǔyǔ): 23 October

Summer Terms - Southern hemisphere dates are approximate

- Start of Summer (立夏 - Lìxià): 7 November



- Small Full (小满 - Xiǎomǎn): 23 November
- Grain in Ear (芒种 - Mángzhong): 7 December
- Summer Solstice (夏至 - Xiàzhì): 23 December
- Minor Heat (小暑 - Xiǎoshǔ): 7 January
- Major Heat (大暑 - Dàshǔ): 23 January

Health Preservation Principles for Spring

The Inner Classic states that Spring belongs to the Wood phase and rules the Liver system. Health preservation during these six solar terms focuses on nurturing Liver qi, dispelling winter cold, and supporting the body's rising Yang Qi.

1. Start of Spring (立春) & Rain Water (雨水)
 - Focus: Protect against wind-cold; nurture the Spleen Stomach systems.
 - Diet: Add aromatic, warming foods like leeks, garlic, onions, fennel, turmeric, cinnamon, coriander, cumin, and ginger to help disperse cold. Avoid excessive sour foods which constrict Liver Qi.
 - Lifestyle: Don't expose the body to the cold that still lingers. Especially keep your lower back, abdomen, and feet warm, as cold entering through the legs harms the Spleen, Liver, and Kidney systems.
 - Emotion: Let your emotions flow. Suppressed emotions can injure the Liver Qi during this seasonal transition. Along with the expansive energy of Spring, it is the perfect time to move onwards and upwards with your personal goals and intentions.
2. Awakening of Insects (惊蛰) & Spring

Equinox (春分)

- Focus: Clear internal heat; balance yin and yang.
- Diet: Consume cooling, hydrating foods like pears, mint, apple, and celery to soothe dry throats caused by rising internal heat.
- Lifestyle: Sleep early and wake up early. Go for brisk walks in nature to allow your Qi to expand alongside the season. Qigong/ Taichi/ Yoga exercises to stretch the tendons and open the joints.

3. Clear and Bright (清明) & Grain Rain (谷雨)

- Focus: Dispel dampness; clear Liver heat.
- Diet: Include dampness-releasing foods like Job's Tears barley, adzuki beans, and yam or sweet potato. Drink chrysanthemum or peppermint/ mint tea to clear the eyes and Liver system. Avoid overeating heavy, greasy foods, which easily burden the digestive tract during high-humidity weeks. Avoid drinking cold drinks and eating raw food too much too early.
- Lifestyle: Look out for humidity and pollen. Exercise moderately to break a light sweat, which helps flush trapped metabolic dampness from the skin. Keep the body, especially the belly warm.

This information is general and for education purposes only, and does not replace the advice of your health professional.

Best wishes for your health and happiness

Dr Chrys Soenaris for Kinglake Chinese Medicine

www.chryssoenaris.com

That persistent pain on the outside of your hip?

It might be gluteal tendinopathy and here is what to do about it

By Ruby Marques, Physiotherapist-Whittlesea Physiotherapy & Clinical Pilates

You roll onto your side in bed and feel a sharp ache in your hip. Walking the dog used to be easy, but now pain starts after a few minutes.

Climbing stairs, standing on one leg to dress, or getting out of the car can aggravate it. If this sounds familiar, you may be experiencing gluteal tendinopathy - a common cause of persistent hip pain. The good news is that with correct diagnosis and rehab, most people return to normal activities without ongoing pain.

What is gluteal tendinopathy?

Your gluteal muscles particularly the gluteus medius and gluteus minimus help stabilise your pelvis and control movement during walking, running, stair climbing, and single-leg stance. These muscles attach to the outside of the hip via tendons that insert into the greater trochanter.

Gluteal tendinopathy occurs when these tendons become overloaded and develop changes making them painful and sensitive. It is often mistaken for 'hip bursitis', although research shows tendons are usually the primary source of symptoms.

What does it feel like?

Common symptoms include:

- Pain on the outside of the hip or upper thigh
- Pain when lying on the affected side at night
- Discomfort when walking, especially longer distances
- Pain on stairs or hills

- Pain when standing on one leg (e.g., dressing, getting out of a car)
- Tenderness over the outer hip
- Stiffness or aching after prolonged sitting

Symptoms often gradually worsen and begin to affect sleep, exercise, and daily activities.

Who gets it?

Gluteal tendinopathy can affect anyone, but it is most common in:

- Women aged 40 -70 years
- People in perimenopause or menopause
- Walkers, runners, and active adults
- People who sit for long periods
- Individuals returning to exercise after a break
- People who have recently increased activity levels

It often develops gradually without a specific injury or trauma.

What actually helps?

The most effective treatment is load management combined with progressive strengthening. While rest, stretching, or massage may provide temporary relief, they do not address the underlying issue.

Rehabilitation typically progresses through three stages:

1. Reduce irritation

- Modify aggravating activities and positions
- Adjust sleep, standing, and exercise habits
- Begin gentle, pain-guided strengthening

2. Build strength

- Strengthen the hip and gluteal muscles progressively
- Improve the tendon's ability to tolerate load



3. Return to activity

- Gradually resume walking, running, sport, and exercise
- Tailor progression to individual goals

Physiotherapy may include education, activity modification, hands-on treatment, and movement retraining to reduce tendon compression and improve load tolerance.

How long does it take?

Most people notice improvement within 6 - 12 weeks with rehabilitation. Long-standing cases may take several months. Progress is gradual and consistency is essential as tendons adapt slowly.

When should you seek help?

If outer hip pain persists for more than a few weeks, affects sleep, or limits activity, assessment is recommended. Gluteal tendinopathy responds well to targeted physiotherapy, which identifies contributing factors and develops a personalised plan.

About Whittlesea Physiotherapy & Clinical Pilates

Whittlesea Physiotherapy & Clinical Pilates has cared for the local community since 2005. Our physiotherapists provide evidence-based assessment and treatment for hip pain and musculoskeletal conditions.

Located at 73 Church Street, Whittlesea and open Monday to Saturday.

To book call 03 9716 2250 or visit whittleseaphysiotherapy.com.au.

GOT PAIN? BOOK AN APPOINTMENT TODAY

0458 112 608

www.innovaosteopathy.com.au

LOCATED WITHIN HILLTOP FITNESS
LEVEL 1, 33 JORGENSEN
PDE, KINGLAKE WEST

The logo for Innova Osteopathy is a circular emblem containing a stylized, interconnected geometric design.

Innova Osteopathy

Dr Nikola White BHSc / BAppSc (Osteopathy)

Samantha Heyfron B Physio, APAM
Adam White B Physio, APAM
Tanvi Tiwari B Physio, MSc MSK Rehab
Luke McMurray B Physio, B Appsc, APAM
Maighan Cann B Appsc, M Physio Prac
Casey Trevenna B Sc M Physio Prac, APAM
Ruby Marques B Physio, APAM

COMPLETE CONCUSSIONS

Whittlesea Physiotherapy and Clinical Pilates

73 Church Street, Whittlesea Victoria 3757

☎ 03 9716 2250 Fax: 03 9716 2275
info@whittleseaphysiotherapy.com.au

The logo for Whittlesea Physiotherapy and Clinical Pilates features the name in a blue sans-serif font. To the right is a stylized blue graphic of a person in a dynamic, jumping pose with arms and legs extended.

Could You Be Missing Out on Energy Assistance?

It is so confusing, they all sound so similar.

Many years ago when Denise at the Neighbourhood House asked me if I had applied for the Non Mains Utility Grant Scheme I said yes – only to realise years later that I'd thought she was talking about the rebate!

I didn't know that there are actually 4 different energy concessions.

Here's a simple guide to four concessions that may be available to you.

1. Annual Electricity Concession:

If you hold an eligible Centrelink concession card and receive mains electricity, you may qualify for an ongoing discount on your electricity bill.

If you're eligible, make sure your electricity retailer has your concession details recorded on your account so the discount can be applied automatically.

<https://services.dffh.vic.gov.au/annual-electricity-concession>

2. Utility Relief Grant Scheme:

Because we need non-mains energy sources in the Ranges, the Utility Relief Grant (URGS) that is available via your provider is \$1300 every two years for us, not the usual \$650 if everything is on mains.

You need a concession card to apply for this and can apply directly to your provider. Be firm with them that it is URGS that you wish to apply for, not a payment plan or a plan review. You must have some money owing in order to apply for this so wait until you get your next bill

and apply before you pay. Your account will be put on hold while the application is processed so you will not be cut off or disadvantaged in any way. <https://services.dffh.vic.gov.au/utility-relief-grant-scheme>

3. Non-Mains Energy Concession:

Keep all of your receipts for gas, firewood and generator fuel. At the end of each year, you can submit them for a partial rebate. You need to have a Centrelink card for this one too. This one can be applied for online or by mail. Depending on your annual spending, rebates can range from around \$58 to \$666 each year, helping offset the cost of staying warm and keeping the lights on.

<https://services.dffh.vic.gov.au/non-mains-energy-concession>

4. Non Mains Utility Relief Grant:

This one you don't need a Centrelink card for but if don't have one, you do need proof that you have had a reduction in income and/or some large, unexpected expenses. This scheme will pay \$650 directly to your supplier for firewood, gas, septic tank cleaning, water and water tank cleaning. That's \$650 to each of those providers every two years. Applications need to be made online and require uploading of invoices and other documentation.

<https://services.dffh.vic.gov.au/utility-relief-grant-scheme-non-mains>

Need Help Applying?

Thanks to funding from the Foundation for Rural & Regional Renewal (FRRR), Diamond Valley Community Support (DVCS) is now offering a monthly outreach

service at the Kinglake Library.

We can help you:

- Work out which concessions you may be eligible for
- Complete applications and forms
- Upload documents and supporting evidence
- Contact providers on your behalf or alongside you
- Navigate online services if technology isn't your thing

And our support doesn't stop with energy concessions.

We can also connect people with food relief, educational assistance, material aid, second-hand furniture and appliances, local firewood programs and other community supports.

In short, if you're not sure where to start, come and have a chat. If we don't know the answer, we'll help find it.

Bookings are recommended, but you're welcome to drop in on the day.

Make a booking at the library or phone contact DVCS on 9435 8282.

Upcoming outreach dates at Kinglake Library:

- 29 September 2026
- 27 October 2026
- 24 November 2026
- 15 December 2026
- 19 January 2026 (Future Dates TBA)

Free, confidential support for the Kinglake community.

Nadia



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Our managers are available to assist with any queries at:

Adrian: 0402 095 585
Sarah: 0419 116 217

admin@careforliving.com.au
www.careforliving.com.au



LOD
Hair Studio

Phone for appointment
Ph. 0404 092 927

52 Watsons Road, Pheasant Creek.

Rotary
Club of Yea



YEA



GARDEN EXPO

19 & 20 SEP 2026

9AM - 3PM

Location: Yea Saleyards

Flat Lead Road, Yea (see website for directions)

Only an hour from Melbourne!

- Native & flowering plants
- Garden sculptures
- Food and drink available
- Garden tools & Vegetable bins
- Seedlings
- Mulch, fertilisers & compost
- Ride-on & push mowers
- Nurseries
- Small chainsaws
- Roses
- Deciduous & Ornamental trees
- Plant Creche
- Speakers Program
- And much more.....

**NEW IN 2026,
TWO SPRING
GARDENS
FOR VIEWING
\$10 INCLUDES
BOTH GARDENS**

- Entry \$12 at the gate (\$10 booked online)
- Concession \$10
- Kids U/16 FREE



Pay at the gate or book online via www.trybooking.com:
www.trybooking.com/DLLKQ (Bookings open August 1st)

Spring Garden tickets \$10 includes both gardens

www.yearotary.org.au



Oct
1-31

Walk for Royal Flying
Doctors Service

Oct
17 or 18

Broom (weed) Removal with Landcare at
Community Centre Grounds - TBC

Nov
16

Lift the Lid & Show
N Shine

A New Rotary Year Begins

Our Annual Changeover Dinner was a wonderful evening of friendship, celebration and looking ahead. With plenty of laughter, conversation and even a cardboard cut-out of our Co-President Nina, who is currently in Norway, it was a great reminder of what makes Rotary so special — people coming together for something bigger than themselves.

We celebrated another fantastic year of Kinglake Market, fundraising, youth initiatives, mental health projects and plenty of snags, while looking forward to another year of service — including the return of our Lift the Lid Walk and Show 'n' Shine this November. We were thrilled to welcome three new members: Kimberley, Damon and Sarah, and recognised Sarah's daughter Jessie with our Young Community Champion Award for her incredible contribution throughout the year.

We also welcomed Sarah Hammond as our inaugural Wellness Officer and Andrew Buchanan as our newest Friend of Rotary. Congratulations to our 2026-27 Board: Carol & Nina — Co-Presidents. Gary — Treasurer. Julie Burgess — Secretary. Andrew Boehm — Foundation Director. Tamara Jade Fowkes — New Generations Director.

A very special congratulations to Miriam Leadbetter, who was inducted as a Paul Harris Fellowship for her outstanding dedication, generosity and service to our community. A truly deserving recognition of someone who embodies "Service Above Self". We were delighted to welcome Damien Gallagher, Mayor of MS, Cindy McLeish MP, and friends from Rotary Clubs Yea, Whittlesea and Diamond Creek.

Thank you to Jess Worrall for the beautiful music, Kinglake Pub for the hospitality, Songbirds & Cappa Rossi's for their raffle donations, and everyone who helped make the night so memorable. Thank you to Jordyn for serving as MC and closing the evening with a thought-provoking message. "Never doubt that a small group of thoughtful, committed citizens can change the world; Indeed, it's the only thing that ever has." — Margaret Mead



Miriam Leadbetter holding her certificate surrounded by fellow Paul Harris Recipients.



Co-Pres Carol and New Gen Dir Tamara with new members Sarah, Damon and Kim with Partner Todd and Young Champion Jessie

The Polio Baton has arrived!

The Polio Baton has arrived in Kinglake! You might see the baton making its way around the region in our relay and showcasing our local businesses. More than just a baton, it represents Rotary's decades-long commitment to a massive humanitarian goal: a polio-free world. Since 1985, Rotary has been at the heart of the global effort to eradicate polio. Together with our partners, we've helped vaccinate billions of children and reduced polio cases by more than 99%. The baton's journey is a reminder that this mission is far from over. Until polio is completely eradicated, Rotary will keep moving forward. From our community to communities around the world — we're proud to be People of Action.



Run for Mental Health

Emma Grenfell is running the **Nike Melbourne Marathon** this October to raise vital funds for Beyond Blue and honour the memory of her beloved Auntie. If you're able to help, please donate to Emma's fundraiser and support this very meaningful cause.



JOIN US



First
Year
Free!

Individual
Membership

Family
Membership

Corporate
Membership

KINGLAKE
MARKET

EST. 2011



10AM - 2PM

BOOK A
STALL!



DATES FOR 2026

FEB 22 MAR 22 APR 26 MAY 24 JUN 28
JUL 26 AUG 23 SEP 27 OCT 25 NOV 22
DEC 20

WE'RE LOOKING FOR BUSKERS
& VOLUNTEERS FOR PARKING
FOR 2026/2027

kinglakemarket@gmail.com

0457 481 980

Kinglake Community Centre - 1 Extons Rd. Kinglake Central

OUR AUGUST GATES
RAISED MONEY FOR





Kinglake LANDCARE

SPRING

Kinglake district is the traditional land of the Taungurung and Wurundjeri people of the Kulin Nation and September/October is Poorneet (or Tadpole) season when the weather warms up while rain continues. Myrning (Yam daisies) flower and tadpoles develop on wetlands.

COMING UP

All welcome to our Bird Box Building Workshop at KRNH in September (details below). Your assistance will help wildlife recovery in the Longwood fire affected areas. Also, all welcome to our Kinglake Landcare Group (KLG) monthly meetings resuming this month after a winter break.

Further activities will be advised by email or on our website.

ACTIVITIES JUST GONE OR CONTINUING

KLG, Upper Goulburn Landcare Network (UGLN), and Murrindindi Shire Council (MSC) celebrated National Tree Day July plantings with the three Kinglake plus Toolangi

primary schools planting approximately 75 plants at each. An additional 300 planted by KLG with assistance from Kinglake Rotary to add to the Kinglake Middle Primary School planting alongside the pathway between the school and Kinglake Community Centre which we had recently prepared by clearing the dense woody weed Flax-leaf Broom.

King Parrot Pest Animal Cooperative (KPPAC) fauna monitoring project of UGLN is to reduce the impact of foxes and feral cats on biodiversity and stock/agriculture assets in the King Parrot Creek catchment. KPPAC reports that fox scats recently studied from around Flowerdale reveal foxes diet of Platypus, Echidna, Wallaby, Ringtail possum, insects, blackberry, and plum. Activity monitoring is carried out annually on participating KPPAC properties using 36 remote sensor cameras with photos on our YouTube channel recorded in 2025

<https://youtu.be/bl6OeWAFyo?si=1UdeAHPadmymVVbV>.

The project has been funded by the Victorian State Governments Partnerships against Pests program.

Also, UGLN through Fencers Without Boundaries is still actively seeking volunteers and donations to assist landowners impacted by the 2026 Longwood Fires in the



Kinglake Primary School planting



Kinglake Middle Primary School planting



Toolangi Primary School planting

Murrindindi and surrounding shires and is calling out for skilled and unskilled volunteers to assist. For more information contact Chris Cobern on 0413 855 490 or by email ugln.projects@ugln.net

On the fire theme, UGLN is currently working with others to provide assistance with updated post fire landscape restoration information.

Disappointingly the annual KNP Lyrebird Survey was cancelled at last minute due to bad weather conditions. But, Lyrebirds were still displaying and spreading their mimicry and song across the forest as I checked regularly during July/August.

GET OUR FREE BOOKLET

'Caring for Your Patch' covering backyard garden design, food growing, plant selection, weed and pest animal management

and more available locally.

MEMBERSHIP BENEFITS

Interested? You can contact our website kinglakelandcare.org for membership details or be added to our free 'friends' mailing list for notification of events.

Next meeting

7.30pm Monday 21 September upstairs at Kinglake Memorial Reserve Hall. A spring welcome to all.

Next events

- UGLN Kids Teaching Kids Conference, Yea Wetlands, 10.15am-2pm Tuesday 1 September.

- KLG Community Bird Box Building Day at KLG 10-30am-12.30pm Saturday 5 September. RSVP kathryndickie2@gmail.com

*Roger Cook, President
Kinglake Landcare Group*



Toolangi Primary School planting

A Community Bird Box Building Day in Kinglake

Kinglake is answering the call – and we need more hands this breeding season

Kinglake Landcare and Kinglake Ranges Neighbourhood House invite the community to join us for a Bird Box Building Day to support wildlife in the Longwood fire affected areas.

The Longwood fires earlier this year tore through large areas of mature forest, destroying fences, farmland, and countless old hollow bearing trees – the homes of our native wildlife. These ancient trees take 80–120 years to form hollows, and without them, species like gliders, phascogales, parrots, owls, kookaburras, and microbats have nowhere to shelter or raise their young.

And now the timing is critical.

Breeding season has begun – and there are no hollows left

As spring approaches, birds and mammals are already searching for nesting hollows. In many fire affected areas, there are simply none left. Without immediate replacement habitat, breeding fails, populations crash, and recovery stalls.

Every box built on this day is an immediate lifeline – a safe nesting site that replaces what the fires destroyed.

Community stepping up – but we need more volunteers

Thanks to generous sponsorship from Community Bank Hurstbridge (Bendigo



Kinglake Landcare “Bird box building” at Kinglake Ranges Neighbourhood House

Bank), all materials have been supplied, and a light lunch will be provided. Our volunteer, Colin Parton, will be pre cutting and flat packing the box components, allowing us to assemble far more boxes – but we need more hands to put them together.

Kinglake is stepping up to assist Upper Goulburn Landcare Network’s Chris Coburn, Roger Cook, and John Stewart and all from the Kinglake area, who have been leading the Longwood recovery effort through fencing crews and on ground support. Their work has inspired Kinglake Landcare to contribute in a meaningful, practical way.

With fencing crews already rebuilding properties, bird boxes are the next critical step – helping wildlife return to the

landholders who have lost so much.

Kinglake Landcare Secretary, Tim Connell, emphasises that this project is about neighbours helping neighbours, even across shire boundaries. Kinglake knows what fire recovery feels like – and now it’s our turn to give back.

How you can help

- Attend the Bird Box Building Day
- Donate materials or tools • Volunteer with Fencers Without Boundaries • Spread the word to others who may want to help

“If you have a power drill, please bring it along to help with assembly”.

Event Details Kinglake Ranges Neighbourhood House Saturday 5th September 2026 – 10.30am to 12.30pm
RSVP essential: kathryndickie2@gmail.com



The Rotary Club of Yea’s Garden Expo will be held on **Saturday and Sunday, 19-20 September, between 9am – 3pm.**

The Expo is an opportunity to view a host of garden related products in a relaxed atmosphere at the Yea Saleyards (Flat Lead Road), just off the Yea Whittlesea Rd on a flat, sealed, dog friendly and easily accessible site for everyone.

Entry fee is just \$12 (Concession \$10, and online \$10) with free parking (children under 16 free) and there will be a plentiful supply of food and drink vendors on site. 70 vendors will be present with all things to do with gardening with exhibits ranging from bulbs, seeds, seedlings, flowering plants and trees, garden tools, equipment, art and ornaments, compost, fertilisers and more.

A daily speaker program will cover a range of topics sure to please all gardeners and with plenty of opportunities to ask questions and have your garden issues solved! Speakers will cover bee keeping, landscape design, gardens for attracting native fauna and the popular Craig Castree on how to grow real food.

Saturday only will again be free face painting, so be sure to bring the kids – U/16 is free entry.

New this year will be two spring gardens to view over the weekend, both in Yea and both sure to provide a riot of spring colour. Tickets are \$10 and include both gardens

Details at website www.yearotary.org.au or keep up to date via Facebook. Pay at the gate or book online (for both events) at www.trybooking.com/DLLKQ



Even though winter has officially ended, Spring can be unpredictable with the weather.

Usually our seasons tend to start a bit later but with the latest El Nino forecasts, it is another concern how we will be impacted.

The latest forecast is that El Nino will be active mid to late spring. Our winter here has been drier than previous years and this has been supported by the forecasts of the El Nino cycle happening.

The main problem will be that clearer skies result in frosts and if this happens during bud burst and early fruiting, the results can be heartbreaking for farmers and growers. It is important to prepare for the worst for what the coming seasons could bring through thorough preparation of soil utilising as much organic matter and mulch as possible.

If we are lucky to get away with minimal climate impact at a local level, then our gardening preparation will have not been a waste of time.

Things to do in September

Spring is a prime growing season and one mistake we gardeners make in our enthusiasm is planting warm season plants too soon. It can get quite cold here and cold stunts plants and frosts can kill seedlings and damage growth.

If you are unsure, resist the temptation to plant out early, but if you can't help yourself, use seaweed as a spray to improve frost resistance as it stimulates root growth. Covering plants overnight will also protect them from severe damage.

Check your soil PH with a soil testing kit. If you find your soil is less than 6.5 then adding a handful of garden lime over a square metre will be beneficial. Wait a week or two before planting. The vegies that can be planted now are:

- Root vegies and seed can be sown directly into the soil.
- Lettuce seedlings or from seed.
- Potatoes won't be a problem with frost as they will remain in the soil for a few weeks and if the type is early cropping, cover with a thick mulch.



• Pea seeds can be sown directly into the soil.

• Silverbeet, English spinach and Asian greens.

These vegies can be started off in seed trays for transplanting out later when they are at the two leaf stage. Keep these in a sheltered place until ready for use:

- Cucumbers
- Capsicums/chillies
- Pumpkin, zucchini
- Tomatoes and Eggplants
- Leeks

The other consideration is to plant flowers in the vegie garden. Perennials and annuals such as violas, marigolds, calendula, sunflowers and borage add colour and attract beneficial insects. Marigolds can be planted between beans, tomatoes and many other vegies to prevent soil borne diseases and pests.

Aphids will start to show themselves this month. Ladybirds are good at controlling them but it will still be a bit too cool for them to start breeding. Aphids start to breed when the temperature is around 4 degrees so they need to be controlled.

Bed 1.

Lime bed after tomatoes are finished.

Plant broad beans, peas, french beans.

As the legumes are harvested cut the plant down to the ground leaving the roots which have nitrogen fixed to their roots and plant cabbage, caulies, broccoli and lettuce

Sprays made with pyrethrum or water with dishwashing detergent added are effective.

Green manures

This is a good time to plant in green manures. If you have a few vegie beds, set aside at least a couple and sow seeds of either broad beans, oats or mustard greens. They can be chopped and dug in in early December or January for next year's winter vegies like cabbages, broccoli and cauliflowers as key nutrients, especially nitrogen, will be available.

Crop Rotation:

This is important because it helps reduce damage from soil pests. Certain plants are attractive to pests, for example tomatoes can be affected by nematodes. Once they are in the soil, it can take years to eradicate them so prevention is better. Vegies like the legume family help fix nitrogen so that is good for leafy vegies like lettuces and silverbeet. There are many diagrams available to help gardeners practice crop rotation. Here is an example for a 4 bed system:

Bed 2

Root vegies go into this bed after the leafy vegies have been harvested. Carrots, parsnips, turnips, swedes, beetroot and onion can go in as well. Garlic and Leek but lime before planting.

As the soil was limed earlier the soil should be sweet enough but do a PH test to check and if under PH7, add a handful of garden lime over a square metre before putting in any seedlings.

Bed 3.

Sweet corn, pumpkins, cucumbers, zucchini.

These vegies are good companions for each other.
Well rotted manure can be added before planting. Then after about 2 weeks add some potassium which will help with setting flowers and cropping.

Bed 4.

This bed will grow tomatoes, capsicums and eggplants from the previous bed 1.

After turning over the green manure, tomatoes can be planted along with capsicums and eggplant.

When these have been harvested, lime the soil ready for legumes.



So, the cycle for crop rotating beds is as follows:
Bed 1 to Bed 4 the following year
Bed 4 to Bed 3 the next year
Bed 3 to Bed 2 the following year
Bed 2 to Bed 1 the next year

If you have more than 4 beds, then you can leave one or two to lie fallow for a season or longer.

It's time to bring in the pollinators

As well as planting annual flowers in the vegie garden, this is a good time to look at planting in other flowering plants around your place to attract pollinators and the

good bugs. This will increase the health of your garden.

Growing native plants are worth consideration as they will help to bring in the birds that help to control the pests and the bees will help pollinate. There are many shrubs that cater for different garden aspects.

It is worth contacting our local Landcare group, and the Upper Goulburn Landcare Network. Native plants will add diversity, and diversity improves garden health. Elizabeth Lawrence, an American garden writer said "The hum of bees is the voice of the garden"

Protecting Our Winters and Ski Seasons

As we move into spring, the last ski season is likely to have been a disappointment for those who head to the slopes or seek to enjoy a family snow experience.

Rain and warmer winter temperatures have been the culprit, but it represents the fourth poor snow season since 2020.

Snow season is an important \$3 billion economic factor and employer for the regions that rely on visitor traffic, including our own shire.

Dr Andrew Watkins, POW Science Alliance Member, Adjunct Professor at Monash University and National Climate Risk Assessment Lead Author, says the recent and future changes to snow covers are due to warm temperatures and less precipitation.

Warmer air means more frequent rain instead of snow even in mid winter, while dry conditions during autumn and

winter mean less snow.

"Rain is the natural enemy of snow - it eats it for breakfast."

Dr Watkins says the need for government intervention is urgent and clear.

Protect Our Winters (POW) Australia is bringing a team of experts to meet with Parliament officials in Canberra to call for a National Alpine Adaptation Plan (NAAP) to protect the cultural, social, economic and environmental importance of our alpine regions.

Published in 2025, the Commonwealth's National Adaptation Plan (NAP) sets a framework for response to physical climate risks outlined under the National Climate Risk Assessment (NCRA). The NCRA found "the future may no longer support systems such as alpine ecosystems", yet alpine regions are omitted from the NAP.

POW is calling on the government to close this significant adaptation gap.

"We need to assess the impacts of warm winters like this one on our communities, industry, and environment, and work with governments to protect our amazing but fragile alpine environment we all love and depend upon," Dr Watkins says.

Australia's resort economy is worth over \$3 billion annually, supporting over 12,000 jobs in Victoria alone.

Over 30 species found nowhere else on earth are facing a drastically changing environment. Hydroelectricity, agriculture, and regional town water security that depend on inflows from the Murray-Darling Basin are at risk. The NAAP would place resources, support, and power in the hands of alpine communities and land managers who are already feeling the impacts of climate change.



School Holidays at Kinglake Library

19 September - 3 October

Visit the Kinglake Library between 19 September and 3 October to complete Library Adventure Scavenger Hunt

Join your friends at Kinglake Library at any time during the September/October school holidays to complete a fun "Adventure Scavenger Hunt".

**Tuesday 29 September | 11.00 am
LEGO Masters**

Visit the Kinglake Library to take part in the school holiday Lego Masters Challenge with your friends. Work as a team to create your own master pieces.

**Thursday 1 October | 11.00 am
Kids in the Kitchen**

Come to the Kinglake Library to make and enjoy some mini-Pizzas.

**Friday 2 October | 10.30 am
Movie Madness**

Join your friends at the Kinglake Library for a movie on the big screen during the school holidays. Popcorn provided.

Bookings are essential.

Book online at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/libraries or call us on 5772 0333



Murrindindi
Shire Council

Middle Kinglake Primary School



Ooshie Club

Half way through term 3 and MKPS is a busy place!

We've said goodbye to Mrs Lang and Remi and can't wait to hear the news of the arrival of their babies.

Mrs Mitchell has stepped into the Grade P/1 and everyone has coped beautifully with the change. This term we have also welcome Pre-service teacher, Miss Delbridge, back.

We have once again been involved in the Australian Antarctic Festival with all students painting penguins. The penguins have been shipped off to Hobart- we can't wait to see photos of the display.

Grade 5/6s have been learning about Parliament and had a fantastic hands-on session participating in a Democracy workshop. The real life parliamentary meeting provided lots of learning and engagement.

Our Preps are 100 days brighter and enjoyed their 100 Days of School celebration, dressing up as old people.

The 2026 Boite Schools' Choir has been a highlight. This year we had a choir consisting of 19 enthusiastic singers. We practised at home and at school to learn songs from Ghana. It all came together when we joined 250 other

students on stage at The Melbourne Town Hall to perform. It was a great show, with our families expressing their amazement and gratitude of how it all came together. We already have students asking how they can sign up for next year.

MKPS has been hit by the popular Ooshies trend. We've started an Ooshies Club for students to share and trade. So many happy faces.

The remainder of the term makes way for Athletics sports, Grade P-2 Camp Activity Day, Grade 2 Sleepover, Footy Day, Book Fair, Science Show incursion and Tabloid Sports Carnival.

Check out our new school beanies- designed by our students. Perfect for Kinglake weather. Available to purchase at the school office for \$25.

Enrolments for 2027 are now open. We encourage new families to come and check out what MKPS has to offer. Our staff work hard to provide an engaging and individualised Literacy and Numeracy curriculum plus many specialist curriculum subjects including Art, Music, Library, Social & Emotional Learning, Auslan, Health & PE and STEM.

We have a huge focus on Sustainability, including the Stephanie Alexander Kitchen



Boite



Penguins

Garden Program. Students are involved in gardening, cooking and learning about environmental issues. If you would like more information about our fabulous school, please don't hesitate to contact us. Call us to schedule a personalised tour. Check out our website <https://www.mkps.vic.edu.au> or 'like' our Facebook page for up to date happenings.

Meagan Callander, Principal



Democracy workshop

Kinglake West Primary School



100 days of Prep

100 days of school for our littlest learners. What a wonderful milestone to celebrate together.

Our prep students celebrated by dressing up as 100 year olds or bright sparks! They cooked yummy pizzas with their year 6 buddies and had a special visitor for the day – Milo, the pony. We are so proud of the learning they have achieved and growth they have made in all aspects of their schooling. We look forward to seeing what the next 100 days bring and their future schooling.

Staff vs Student Netball matches

This term we held our first ever student versus staff netball match. It was so popular that we had 3 separate matches for the P-2, 3-4 and 5-6 cohorts. Students have been learning the game and skills required for netball in their PE lessons and our inter-school sports teams has been shining a light on netball within our school too.

The staff are happy to share that they were victorious across all 3 matches, however there may have been some height advantages along the way.

Looking Ahead

Coming up in the next month or so we are looking forward to our National Science week dress up and family trivia afternoon and of course our annual Book Week celebrations. Keep your eyes on our Facebook page for all the exciting happenings at KWPS.



Where are they now?

Declan Thomas

Years attended KWPS: 2007–2013



My Most Memorable Primary School Moment:

Me not getting an orange card but watching my younger brother walking to the Principal's Office with one for swearing. (I lie — that's not the most memorable, but it was funny.)

What Am I Doing Now?: For the past five years I've studied at the Australian National University. I currently hold a government position in Canberra, and I'm preparing to commence a new role with a Justice of the ACT Supreme Court in 2027.

A Message for Current KWPS Students: Be good and don't commit crime.

Fun Fact About Me: I'm the best Thomas kid to ever graduate from KWPS.

Enrolments for 2027 are open. To take a look at our wonderful school, please contact the office to book a tour.

(03) 5786 5262

Kinglake.west.ps@education.vic.gov.au

Kinglake Primary School



A Message from Our Principal – Mr Luke McMurray

Dear Kinglake Community,

I am incredibly grateful to introduce myself as the new Principal of Kinglake Primary School and to begin this exciting new chapter alongside such a wonderful community.

My teaching journey began as a classroom teacher in Melbourne's northern suburbs before I moved into a variety of leadership roles. Over the past several years, I have had the privilege of serving as a Campus Principal and Acting Principal, experiences that have strengthened my understanding of teaching and learning, staff development, school improvement, community engagement, and the many rewarding challenges that come with leading a school.

Since joining Kinglake Primary School in 2026, what has stood out to me most is the incredible sense of community that makes this school so special. Our students, families, and staff genuinely care about one another and take great pride in our school.

My goal is for every student to feel known, valued, and supported, while being encouraged to achieve their very best. I believe that when schools and families work together, we create the strongest foundation for children to thrive.

There is so much to be proud



of at Kinglake Primary School, and I am excited about what the future holds. We have wonderful students, dedicated staff, and a supportive community, and I look forward to working alongside each of you as we continue to build on the school's many strengths.

Thank you for the warm welcome I have already received. I am proud to be part of the Kinglake Primary School community and look forward to meeting and working with you throughout the year.

Warm regards, Mr McMurray

100 Days of Prep!

What a wonderful milestone for our amazing Prep students!

We are so incredibly proud of everything our Preps have achieved in their first 100 days of school. From learning new skills and making new friends to building confidence, independence and a love of learning, they have already come such a long way!

We are also very lucky to have such a wonderful Prep teacher, Mrs Hocking, who gives her all to supporting, encouraging

and inspiring our Foundation students every single day. Her dedication, patience and passion for teaching help our little learners build confidence, develop new skills and achieve big things.

We can't wait to see how much more our Preps learn, discover and achieve by the end of next term. We know there are so many wonderful things still to come!

Congratulations to our fantastic Preps on 100 amazing days! We are so proud of you!

Toolangi Primary School

A full calendar at Toolangi Primary School this month has provided plenty of unique experiences for our students, making memories with friends to treasure forever.

Lake Mountain Snow Trip

The Lake Mountain Snow Trip was a great day. Although there was no natural snow, there was still plenty of made snow for snow play and tobogganing! Below, some of the students share their experiences.



"It took about an hour on the bus to get to the mountain. We did snow play first, throwing snow balls at each other. They were really solid, cold and hard! We had lunch and in the afternoon, we went tobogganing. I definitely recommend going on the Toolangi Primary School snow trip". – Ryan

"On the first week of term 3 we went to the snow for a school excursion. When we got there, it was really hot but the snow ball fight cooled me off. On the toboggan run, I fell over multiple times but when I got back down to the bottom I wanted to do it again and again and again. It was a very fun day at the snow trip". – Quinn

100 Days of Prep

Our Juniors had a great day celebrating 100 Days of Prep. We had a number of 100-year-olds hobbling about during the day and with their grey hair and glasses, they certainly looked the part. The children



did all sorts of activities connected with the number 100. The most memorable was creating 100 snacks by counting 10 groups of 10, writing down tally marks and numbers and doing lots of counting. There is no doubt that this day is a highlight on the calendar.

National Tree Day

Sunday 26 July was National Tree Day and we were lucky enough to take part in an event at school, one of many held in and around our local community. Zanni, John and Felix, volunteer members of Landcare Victoria, arrived at school on Monday with shrubs and grasses, Indigenous to the area, for our students to plant. Getting involved in this event allowed students to learn about protecting the environment by providing

renewed habitats for other living creatures; at the same time creating more oxygen in our atmosphere for us all to breathe. The children planted and protected, 70+ plants, which in time will transform a couple of bare patches in our school grounds. We are particularly grateful to Zanni for including our school in this project.

Toolangi Primary School Playgroup

We would like to welcome new friends to our playgroup. Held on Tuesday mornings from 9:00-10:00am, in the Forest Room at school, the children have fun at play, enjoying storytime and craft activities, whilst carers have opportunities to chat and connect over a cuppa. Bring a piece of fruit to share, we'd love to see you.



PLAYGROUP AT TOOLANGI PRIMARY SCHOOL

Join our Playgroup, where children and their caregivers can learn, play and connect in a welcoming environment. It's a wonderful opportunity to meet other local families, build friendships and enjoy quality time together, where everyone is welcome!

✓ Tuesdays 9:00-10:00am

✓ Play-based Activities

✓ Craft

✓ Story-time

✓ Bring a piece of fruit to share

CONTACT US

☎ 5962 9255

🌐 www.toolangips.vic.edu.au



Flowerdale Primary School

Small School, Big Experiences

It has certainly been a busy few weeks at Flowerdale Primary School

Since our last Mountain Monthly update, our students have been learning, celebrating, competing, creating and connecting with our local community — and we have loved seeing our little school full of activity.

One of the highlights was our Community Tree Planting Day at King Parrot Creek. Our students walked from the school to the reserve and worked alongside members of our local community to help plant trees and contribute to the ongoing care of this beautiful part of Flowerdale.

It was a wonderful opportunity for students to learn through doing, spend time outdoors and understand that even small hands can make a meaningful contribution to their community.

Our Foundation students also celebrated a very special milestone — 100 Days of School. Their “100 Days of Blossoming” celebration recognised just how much growth can happen during those first 100 days of school. We celebrated their development as readers, writers, mathematicians, friends and increasingly confident members of our school community.

Our Years 3–6 students recently

represented Flowerdale at Hoop Time in Yarra Junction, winning three of their five games. While the wins were exciting, we were equally proud of the teamwork, encouragement and sportsmanship our students demonstrated throughout the day. They represented our school beautifully.

Friday mornings have also become a little busier with the introduction of our Community Playgroup. It has been wonderful welcoming younger children and their families into the school and creating another opportunity for local families to connect. For a small community, these connections matter, and we love seeing new faces becoming familiar ones.

Across the school, we are continuing to strengthen what it means to be a Flowerdale student. Our values of Respect, Kindness, Empathy and Integrity are becoming increasingly visible in the way students interact, solve problems, support one another and contribute to school life.

We are also continuing to build student voice and leadership, with students encouraged to share ideas, take responsibility and help shape projects that make a positive difference to their school.

There is plenty happening inside our classrooms too. Our staff continue to work together to strengthen teaching, learning

and student engagement, with a strong focus on creating classrooms where students feel safe, supported and ready to learn. One of the great strengths of a small school is that we truly know our students — their strengths, their interests, what challenges them and the encouragement they need to take their next step.

And there is still plenty more to come...

With Book Week, our Book Week Parade and Book Fair just around the corner, our school will soon be filled with books, characters, imagination and plenty of stories. We are particularly looking forward to welcoming families into the school to celebrate with us.

Our students will also be attending ELF in Yea, providing another opportunity to learn, participate and connect with experiences beyond our own school grounds.

When people think of a small school, they sometimes imagine fewer opportunities. At Flowerdale, we see it differently. Being small allows us to create experiences where every child can participate, every child can contribute and every child is known.

We may be a small school, but there is certainly nothing small about the learning, experiences or community spirit happening here.

Meg James, Acting Principal



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👥 WHO
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📋 HOW TO JOIN US
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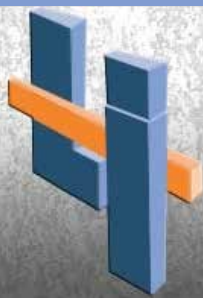
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W: www.churchkinglake.org

E: michelle@churchkinglake.org

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St Peters Memorial Church

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(03) 9716 2042

Christ Church, Whittlesea

5-9 Wallan Rd, Whittlesea (Mel 246E9)

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Minister: Rev'd Dr Walter Firth 0439447395

03 9716 2042

Walter.firth@gmail.com

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Kinglake Junior Football



Congratulations to our U14s who made finals this season

The 2026 Home and Away season has now come to a close, and we couldn't be prouder of all our teams and their stellar efforts throughout the year. A special congratulations to our U14s on making finals!

It has been a big year for our club, with a record number of registrations and teams taking to the field, alongside the disruption caused by the major works on our home ground oval. We would like to extend a huge thank you to all our players, families, coaches, team managers, game-day helpers and sponsors.

Your combined efforts have ensured not only a successful season, but also the smooth delivery of our player development program.

Presentation Day

Our Presentation Day will be held on **Sunday 13 September** at the Kinglake Pub, Lawsons Restaurant.

With a record number of families involved this year, we will be holding two separate presentation sessions:

- **U9, U10 & U12:** 12:00pm–3:00pm
- **U14 & U16:** 3:00pm–6:00pm

We look forward to seeing as many families as possible as we come together to celebrate the season that was. It is shaping up to be a fantastic day, where we will recognise outstanding performances, most

improved players, and the hard work, commitment and team spirit that our club prides itself on.

We will share a full list of all award recipients in next month's article, so stay tuned—and keep an eye on our socials for further announcements!

We look forward to celebrating a fantastic 2026 season with you all.



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 E: kinglakejfc@gmail.com
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Kinglake Riders rallies are held on the 4th Saturday each month at the club grounds at the Kinglake Trust Reserve, Kinglake.

PRESIDENT: LINDA DICKSON lindadickson@live.com.au 0419 620 231

VICE PRESIDENT: PAT EVERINGTON paeverington@bigpond.com PH 0409 663 943

SECRETARY: KRISTY DEMBY ccdemy@hotmail.com 0409 768 900

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Kinglake Riders Club

Over 40 Years of Community Partnership and Horsemanship at the Kinglake Trust Reserve

For more than 40 years, the Kinglake Riders Club (KRC) has been bringing together local horse enthusiasts through recreation, competition, volunteerism and lifelong friendships.

At the heart of the club's success has been its long standing partnership with the Kinglake Trust Reserve Committees, whose ongoing support has helped the club grow from a small group of trail riders into one of Victoria's respected Horse Riding Clubs - Association of Victoria (HRCV) clubs.

If riding is your thing and you would enjoy a club atmosphere and activities, they would welcome new members.

From Trail Riders to an Incorporated Club

The club began in 1985 when a group of local riders met regularly at the Kinglake Trust reserve to enjoy trail riding. The same year KRC became one of the first clubs to affiliate with the newly formed HRCV.

A significant milestone came in 1991 when the club became an incorporated association following a meeting at the Kinglake Hotel. David Cameron became the club's first Public Officer, and regular rallies soon became a feature of the local equestrian calendar.



Building a Home

In 1992, the Kinglake Trust Reserve welcomed both the Kinglake Riders Club and the Kinglake Pony Club (then known as Plenty Valley Pony Club) to share the Reserve's grounds and formalised a lease arrangement. The site required significant volunteer effort to clear rubbish and abandoned vehicles before it could be safely used.

Through the generosity of local families, volunteers and the Trust Reserve Committee, known then as the Kinglake Hall Committee, the facilities steadily improved. In 1995, a purpose built arena (menage) was constructed with support from Yea Shire Council and the Trust Committee creating new opportunities for training and competition. Over the following years, additional fencing, tie-up rails and day yards were added as the clubs continued working together to develop the precinct.

Growing Success

While trail riding remained central to the club, members expanded into dressage, show jumping, combined training and horse trials. Riders represented Kinglake at HRCV competitions across Victoria, earning a reputation well beyond the local district.

Some of the club's proud achievements include:

2002 – Top Teams Combined Training – 3rd



2003 – HRCV Top Teams Horse Trials – 1st

2005 – HRCV Top Teams Show Jumping

2014 – Top Teams Dressage – 2nd

2024 – HRCV Top Teams Horse Trials – 1st

For a small country club, these results reflect the dedication of generations of riders, instructors, volunteers and supporters.

Black Saturday and Rebuilding



The Black Saturday bushfires in February 2009 completely destroyed the shared facilities at the Kinglake Trust Reserve and years of effort disappeared in a single day.

What followed was a remarkable community rebuilding effort. With support from Pony Club Victoria and HRCV Clubs, Rotary Clubs local and international, local businesses, volunteers and donors from across Australia, fences, yards and infrastructure were rebuilt. A new shared clubhouse, donated by BRB Modular and completed with volunteer labour, became an important meeting place during the recovery.

Despite the devastation, club rallies resumed later that year – a testament to the resilience and determination of everyone involved.

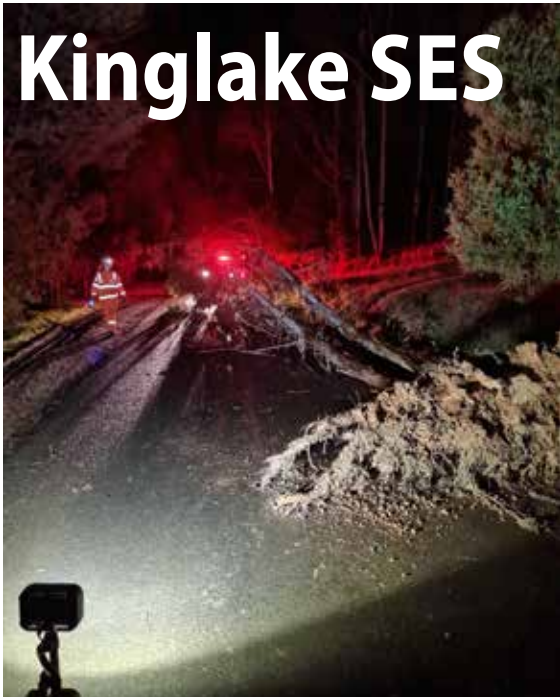
A Lasting Partnership with Kinglake Trust Reserve Inc.

Today, Kinglake Riders Club continues to thrive thanks to the commitment of its volunteers and its enduring partnership with the Kinglake Trust Reserve Inc. Committee and Kinglake Pony Club.

Together they have transformed a once neglected area into a vibrant precinct that continues to support riders of all ages. More than four decades on, the club remains a proud example of community spirit, resilience and the lasting power of volunteers working together.

Information: Kristy Demby 0409 768 900 ccdemy@hotmail.com

Kinglake SES



It has been another busy month for members of Kinglake SES, with a total of 18 Requests for Assistance (RFAs) being received.

These have covered a wide range of requirements, from the standard trees on the road, to tree on a house and trees restricting access.

We have also had a team assist police up on Ghin Ghin Road searching for a missing fisherman, and also attended 3 road crash events.

These RFAs have been at all times of the day and night, so please think of your local volunteers on those dark and windy nights when you are all tucked up in bed, they are out there keeping the community safe.

PLEASE REMEMBER IF YOU NEED OUR ASSISTANCE DIAL 132 500

IF IT IS AN EMERGENCY DIAL 000

Kinglake SES is an inclusive unit where all members, with the required qualification, can be the lead on any of our jobs.

In the last month two of our recently qualified Chain Saw operators, Greg H. and Evelyn both had the opportunity to put their newly learned skills to practice, Greg H. cleared a tree that had blocked Silver Creek Road and Evelyn cleared a tree that was blocking access to a property on Heidelberg/Kinglake Road.

In both cases a more experienced member is there to guide and assist while they gain valuable knowledge for future jobs. Our unit controller also had a chance to brush off the cobwebs when clearing access for a resident in Flowerdale.



While we say this every month, please be careful on our roads, particularly at this time of year with the fog and wet weather we are experiencing. One of the Road Crashes we attended this month saw a person trapped in their vehicle which meant a delay in getting them into an ambulance as we had to cut them out of the vehicle. In this case the Melba Hwy was blocked for a period of time.

While we understand that this is very inconvenient, please understand that this is done for the safety of the injured person or persons but also to keep the emergency service volunteers and professionals safe as well.

It still concerns us that even with our blue and red flashing lights operating, that a number of drivers still believe it is OK to pass at speed. Remember it is Law that the driver must pass at 40 Km, so if you see us flagging you to slow down it is because

we believe that you are travelling too fast.

Remember we are volunteers and want to get home safely.

Again thank you to all of our community members who drop off bottles and cans, this definitely helps raise funds for our unit, Keith and Greg H work hard taking these down to the Whittlesea Neighbourhood House to be sent off for recycling.

If joining us is something that you are interested in then come down to the unit. We train every Monday night from 7.30pm to 9.30pm except public holidays. Juniors can start from 15 years old. Contact our Unit Controller Leanne Klammer 0428 110 773, Deputy Controllers Andrew Derwent 0419 581 520 or Wayne Leech 0407 400 465 and have a chat, you might find it a good way to meet people in our community and learn new skills at the same time.

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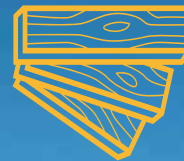
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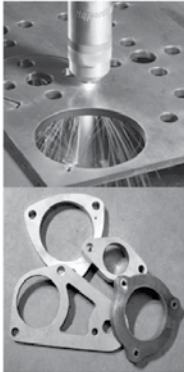
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PLUMBING SERVICES

Mountain Range Plumbing

Kinglake Area

Free Quotes

All work guaranteed

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Damien

15 YEARS EXPERIENCE

SPECIALIZING IN

- Treatment Plants • Septic Systems
- Grey Water Systems • Sewers & Drainage
- Fire Services • Water Tank Installation • General Plumbing
- Domestic & Commercial

email: info@mountainrangeplumbing.com.au

www.mountainrangeplumbing.com.au

PLUMBING SERVICES

Call James
0405 263 224

Licenced to Plumb

Servicing all local areas

Over 20 years experience

Happy to assist with all your plumbing needs

Local, happy plumber

providing the local community with good honest plumbing at local rates

PLUMBING SERVICES



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For all your domestic water
and waste water needs

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- Water Tanks and Filtration
- Irrigation Systems
- Treatment Plants and Septics

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SEPTIC TANK SERVICES

SEPTIC SERVICES



Specialising in

- Septic Tank,
- Treatment Plant Cleaning
- Commercial & Domestic Grease Trap removal
- Water Tank Cleaning

EPA Accredited

Call Jeff 0421 764 072

SEPTIC TANK SERVICES



Specialising in septic tank,
treatment plant, grease trap, portable
toilet cleaning and waste removal.

☎ 0418 303 761

✉ gcsepticcleaning@gmail.com

📍 Servicing the Yarra Valley
and surrounding areas.
24/7 call-outs available.

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TREE SERVICES



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TREE MANAGEMENT

TREE REMOVAL
24/7 EMERGENCY SERVICES
TREE MAINTENANCE & PRUNING
☎ 0400 189 149
CALL FOR YOUR FREE QUOTE TODAY!

WATER SUPPLIES

Mt Robertson SPRING WATER



Kinglake Central

Filtered Spring Water
Domestic Water Cartage
Fully Licensed

David and Karin

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TREE SERVICES



MORGAN'S
TREE SERVICES P/L

- Tree pruning • Tree removal
- Chipping service
- Dead wood/dangerous limb removal
- **FREE QUOTE**

30 Years' experience • Fully insured
Competitive rates • Local business

Call Dayle on 0419 895 464

TREE SERVICES



- Trees Trimmed/Removed
- Stump Removal
- Chipper/Mulcher Service
- Fully Insured

For a free quote please call
0407 804 472 or 0419 506 739
Fax 5797 2641

WATER BORES

WATER BORES BY



North West Drilling

No nonsense, straight forward advice!
Local business established 35 years plus

Call Graham Brennan

Office 9436 1982 or 0409 362 289

email northwestdrilling@bigpond.com.au

LOCAL BUSINESS DIRECTORY

Receive a FREE Local Business listing when you advertise with MM (normally \$19 per month)

ACCOUNTANTS

ML Accounting Solutions 0438 778 303

AGED CARE

healthAbility 0414 272 411

AIRCONDITIONING SERVICES

Vic Chill 0402 171 953

APPLIANCE REPAIRS

Ray Appliance Repair & Service 0432 981 161

AUTOMOTIVE (CAR / MOTORCYCLE)

Kinglake Exhaust Centre - Harry 0417 363 762

Kinglake Ranges Service & Repair 0418 515 506

Parkers Auto Plus 9716 2010

BANKS

Bendigo Bank – Hurstbridge (03) 9718 0431

BIN HIRE

Barbers Bin Hire 9714 8511 or 0409 677 687

BUILDERS

Leonard Interiors 0418 335 475

Mattador Building & Construction 0400 357 408

CAFES, BAKERY, FOOD & RESTAURANTS/CATERING

Cappa Rossi's Cafe 5786 1783

Flowerdale Hotel 03 5780 1230

Kinglake Fish N Chippery 5786 1828

Kinglake Pub 5786 1230

Songbird Cafe & Larder 5786 1275

CARAVANS & RV'S

All About Leisure 0417 364 549

CARPENTRY

Vazbuilt 0414 085 247

CONCRETE, STONE & BRICKLAYING SERVICES

Fleetwood Concreting 0418 534 973

Wheeler & Sons Construction 0421 435 766

EARTHWORKS

Bulldozer Hire 0473 525 695

JR Earthworks Damien 0418 506 130

ELECTRICIANS & DATA SPECIALISTS

Kinglake Electrical Services Jason 0448 810 715

ENGINEERING, DESIGN & WELDING

R & D Burns Engineering 0428 300 357

FINANCIAL SERVICES

NS Finance & Mortgages – Nicole 0412 169 035

FIREWOOD

Action Firewood 0448 583 861

Spark It Up Firewood 0408 239 631

Whittlesea H Hardware (03) 9716 2226

FUNERAL HOMES

Halls Funeral Services 9438 5416

GARDEN SERVICES & SUPPLIES

Morgan's Fuel Reduction 0419 895 464

Pheasant Creek Gas and Property Maintenance
0401 870 158

GAS SUPPLIES

Kinglake Gas Barry 5786 2197

Pheasant Creek Gas and Property Maintenance
0401 870 158

GRAPHIC DESIGNER

Ann Friedel Publishing 0418 556 107

HAIRDRESSER

L D Hair Studio 0404 092 927

HARDWARE

Simply Timber & Roofing 03 5743 0000

Whittlesea H Hardware (03) 9716 2226

HEALTH & WELLBEING

Chinese Medicine – Dr Angela Palmer 5786 1889

Innova Osteopathy 0458 112 608

Whittlesea Physiotherapy 9716 2250

IT SERVICES

DEV3 (03) 9123 4215

LANDSCAPING

Wheeler & Sons Construction 0421 435 766

MEDICAL SERVICES

Omnia Community Health 03 5421 1666

Whittlesea Medical Imaging 9716 0278

METAL FABRICATIONS

Outer Edge Creations – Custom Fabrications
0409 575 846

NDIS SERVICE PROVIDER

Care for Living Adrian 0402 095 585
Sarah 0419 116 217

Karisa Support Services 0493 254 930

NURSERY / GARDEN

Alowyn Gardens 9730 2400

PAINTERS

John Kyme Painter & Decorator 0418 564 851

On Time Painting Australia 0402 771 175

PEST CONTROL

Home Pest Services 0488 004 882

PHARMACY

Kinglake Community Pharmacy 5786 1109

PLASTERING

NCC Plastering 0435 842 859

PDL Plastering 0417 558 727 or 5786 5591

PLUMBING & PUMP SERVICES/SALES

Irelands Plumbing 0447 710 631

Kinglake Plumbing & Drainage 0408 176 342

Licensed to Plumb 0405 263 224

Mountain Range Plumbing
Damien 0418 506 130

POST OFFICE

Kinglake Post Office 5786 1209

REAL ESTATE AGENTS

Integrity Real Estate 5786 2033

Nutrien Harcourts - Kinglake 03 5797 2799

ROOFING

CB Roofing 0403 555 279

SCRAP METAL

United Metal Recycling 9467 5505

SEPTIC SERVICES

GC Septic Tank Cleaning 0418 303 761

Septic Services 0421 764 072

Septic Tank Specialists (Kinglake) 0408 176 344

SUPERMARKET

Kinglake FoodWorks 5763 6602

TANK CLEANING

Accent On Tank Cleaning 0407 684 910

TIMBER SUPPLIES

Simply Timber & Roofing 03 5743 0000

TREE SERVICES

Rapid Tree Management 0400 189 149

Unlimited Tree Services 0419 506 739

VALUATIONS

Yarra Valley Valuations 5961 9176

VETERINARY SERVICES

Mountain Ranges Vet Clinic 5786 1777

WATER BORES

Northwest Drilling 0409 362 289 or 9436 1982

WATER SUPPLIERS

Mt Robertson Spring Water
0400 389 022 or 0457 681 992

MURRINDINDI SHIRE COUNCIL

Customer Service &

General Enquiries (03) 5772 0333

Alexandra Library (03) 5772 0333

Yea Library (03) 5772 0333

Kinglake Library (03) 5772 0333

Mobile Library (03) 5772 0333

Operations Emergencies* (03) 5772 0333

(eg collapsed bridge or trees over road)

Community Safety Emergencies* (03) 5772 0333

(eg stock on roads or dog attacks)

***These numbers must only be used in the case of an emergency.** For further information on Council or opening hours of the Resource Recovery Centres please visit the website <https://www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/Home>

**MOUNTAIN
MONTHLY**
THE RANGES NEWS
www.mountainmonthly.com.au



Find us on Facebook
and Instagram

COMMUNITY & EMERGENCY CONTACT NUMBERS

EMERGENCY SERVICES

For life-threatening emergencies or urgent police, fire, and ambulance services in Kinglake, **call 000 immediately**

For non-life-threatening storm and flood assistance, contact the State Emergency Service (SES) on **132 500**, or use the VicEmergency Hotline at **1800 226 226** for major incident updates.

Immediate Emergency Services

• Police, Fire, and Ambulance:	000
(106 for text/speech impairment)	
• State Emergency Service (SES):	132 500
• VicEmergency Hotline:	1800 226 226
• Burn-off Notifications:	1800 668 511

Local Information & Support

- Murrindindi Shire Council: Check the Murrindindi Shire Council Safety Portal for local municipal recovery and emergency updates.
- Emergency Broadcasters: Tune in to UGFM (Kinglake Ranges FM 94.5) or ABC Radio (774 AM) for local emergency warnings and safety updates.

Crisis and Health Support

• Nurse-on-Call / Healthdirect:	1800 022 222
• Lifeline:	13 11 14
• Poisons Information Centre:	13 11 26
• Omnia Community Health	1300 773 352
• Help for Wildlife:	0477 555 611

CRISIS NUMBERS

• Lifeline	13 11 14
• Beyond Blue	1300 22 46 36

MURRINDINDI SHIRE COUNCIL

Customer Service &

General Enquiries	(03) 5772 0333
Alexandra Library	(03) 5772 0333
Yea Library	(03) 5772 0333
Kinglake Library	(03) 5772 0333
Operations Emergencies*	(03) 5772 0333
(eg collapsed bridge or trees over road)	

Community Safety Emergencies*	(03) 5772 0333
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*These numbers must only be used in the case of an emergency

For further information on Council or opening hours of the Resource Recovery Centres please visit <https://www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au/Home>

ALCOHOL AND DRUG SERVICES

health.vic.gov.au

DirectLine	1800 888 236
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MENTAL HEALTH SERVICES

Mental Health Advice Line	1300 280 737
Crisis Assessment & Treatment Team	1300 859 789
Aged Psychiatric	
Assessment and Treatment	1300 369 005
Adult Mental Health Mon-Fri	BH 5735 0333
Afterhours/Weekends/24hrs	1300 369 005

Child And Adolescent Mental Health	
Monday to Friday 9-5	5735 0300
Afterhours	1300 369 005
Mental Illness Fellowship	5735 2000
Goulburn Valley Health Mental Health Services	
Seymour	1300 369 005
Epping	1300 874 243
Heidelberg	1300 859 862

HOUSING SERVICES

Consumer Affairs – Tenancy advice	1300 558 181
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AGED AND DISABILITY SERVICES

National Dementia Helpline	1800 100 500
Carers' Respite and Information Service	1800 059 059
Community Interlink	1800 222 582
DHS – Disability Access and Response Team	1800 783 783
Regional Information and Advocacy Council	1800 221 944
Interchange-for children with disabilities	5735 4600
Deaf Access Victoria	1300 302 335
Vision Australia	5831 3555
Kinglake Carers' Support Group	5786 1232

CHILD AND FAMILY SERVICES

DHS Child Protection	1800 650 227
After Hours	13 12 78
Family Day Care – Murrindindi Shire	1800 633 792
Specialist Children's Services	1800 783 783
Familycare	1800 663 107 or 5735 4600

FAMILY VIOLENCE

Womens Domestic Violence Crisis Service	
	9322 3555 or 1800 015 188
Whittlesea Family Violence Unit,	
Mill Park Police	9407 3333

COUNSELLING SERVICES

Be Well In The Ranges –	KRNH 5786 1301
Yea Community Health	5736 0400
Men & Relationships Program	1800 663 107
Relationships Australia	1300 364 277
Victims Support Agency	1300 362 739
Victims of Crime Helpline	1800 819 817

HEALTH SERVICES

Omnia Community Health Kinglake	1300 77 33 52
Yea Medical Centre	5736 0444
Yea & District Memorial Hospital	5736 0400
Whittlesea Medical Imaging	9716 0278

COMMUNITY SUPPORT RESOURCES

Kinglake Ranges Neighbourhood House	5786 1301
Flowerdale Neighbourhood House	0490 941 247
Toolangi Neighborhood House	5962 9060
Whittlesea Community House	9716 3361

Community Groups

Kinglake CWA	0408 729 580
Kinglake Ranges Men's Shed	0402 523 488
email: kinglake-shed@outlook.com	
Rotary Club of Kinglake Ranges	
info: info@RotaryClubKinglakeRanges.com.au	
Kinglake Historical Society	0414 255 893
Inner Wheel Club 11w.au.kinglakeranges@gmail.com	
Kinglake Riders Club	ccdemby@hotmail.com

SCHOOLS

Kinglake PS	5786 1284
Middle Kinglake PS	5786 1295
Kinglake West PS	5786 5262
Flowerdale PS	5780 1264
Toolangi PS	5962 9255
Strathewen PS	9714 8278
Yea High	5797 2207
Whittlesea SC	9719 1200
Diamond Valley	9438 1411

KINDERGARTENS/PLAYGROUPS

Kinglake Ranges Childrens Centre	5786 1352
Kinglake Playgroup	5786 1301
Flowerdale Kinder	5780 2816

PUBLIC PLACES

Community Centre Bookings	5786 1522
Kinglake Library	5786 1522
Lions Tool Library	0414 555 544
Kinglake Trust Reserve – Ellimatta Centre	0493 720 595
Sports Stadium Bookings	5786 1522
Kinglake West Mechanics Institute	0435 414 110
PO Box 108, Pheasant Creek	3757
Football Clubrooms	5786 1580
National Park	13 19 63 www.parks.vic.gov.au
Flowerdale Community Hall	5780 2027

PATIENT TRANSPORT

Red Cross Patient Transport Service	0419 872 230
Lower Hume Community Transport Scheme	5799 2965

JUSTICES OF THE PEACE

K Stewart (Kinglake)	0419 347 581
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RESOURCE RECOVERY CENTRE

TRANSFER STATION (KINGLAKE)

CHARGES FOR MURRINDINDI RATEPAYERS

We recommend you check the website www.murrindindi.vic.gov.au for current charges

Help Us Update Our Community Directory

At *Mountain Monthly* we are updating our Community & Emergency Contact Numbers.

These important numbers and email addresses change over time.

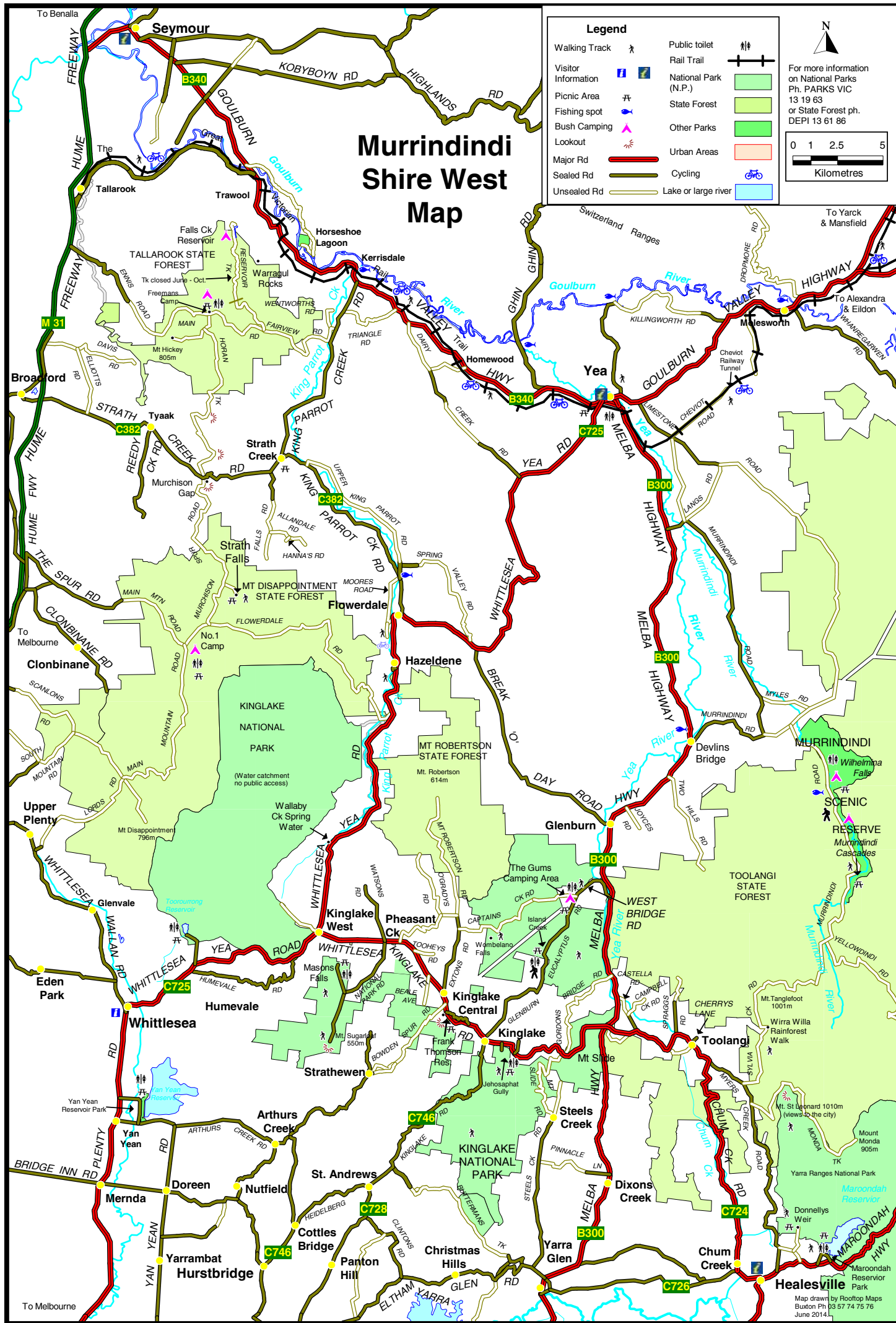
New services and groups are also put in place.

This updated directory will take time to consolidate, but in order to provide our readers with the best at-a-glance guide, we urge you to check contact details are current and correct for your group.

You may wish to add your community group to the listings.

Please note that these are not business listings that fall within our Local Business Directory.

Email any changes or requests for inclusion to janedoconnor485@gmail.com



September 2026

ELF Reading Day

For one special morning each year, Alexandra's Grant Street transforms into a giant storybook, where community members come together to share a love of books and to support literacy development.

Everyone from near and far is invited to dress as their favourite book character and join the adventure on Friday 18 September 2026 from 10.00 to 11.00 am.

For more information, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/elf26

Movies, Meals and Meaningful Connections at Kinglake for R U OK? Day

In support of R U OK? Day, Council invites you to join us for a free community event featuring films, food and meaningful conversations.

Join us Thursday 10 September at Kinglake Ranges Neighbourhood House, 6 McMahons Road, Kinglake for the following program:

- 1.30 pm – Matinee screening of Tinā
- 3.30 pm - Light afternoon tea served following the screening.

Registrations are free but required for safe venue capacity and catering. Please review content themes and warnings before attending.

For more information about events, meals and to register your attendance, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/ruok26

Council extends our thanks to all of the community groups, volunteers and individuals that provided their time and resources to these events.

This event is supported by a Look Over the Farm Gate grant provided by Agriculture Victoria under the Victorian Government's 2025 Drought Support Package.

Library Strategy and Action Plan 2027-2030

Thank you to everyone who helped write the next chapter of your library.

Community consultation has now closed and we are reviewing all feedback to help shape the Draft Plan.

Stay tuned for the next stage and at murrindindi.vic.gov.au/draftlsap

Cr Jodi Adams resigns from Council

Council has received the resignation of Kinglake Ward Councillor Jodi Adams, effective 12 August 2026.

Cr Adams was elected to represent Kinglake Ward in October 2024 and held Council's Community Wellbeing portfolio during her term.

Her resignation creates an extraordinary vacancy in Kinglake Ward, which will be filled through a by-election conducted by the Victorian Electoral Commission (VEC).

Council will keep the community informed as details of the by-election, including key dates and voting arrangements, are confirmed.

Read the full media release and find out more murrindindi.vic.gov.au/cradamsresignation

2026/27 Rates have been posted

We know this time of year can be busy and stressful, so we encourage anyone needing extra support to contact us by emailing rates@murrindindi.vic.gov.au or calling (03) 5772 0333.

We can:

- tailor payment plan options to suit your situation
- help you update your details including getting your notice via email
- process a payment.

All enquiries are treated confidentially.

For more information about your rates including ways to pay, a breakdown of fees and charges, updating your details and more, visit murrindindi.vic.gov.au/rates

Free Mulch

Mulch generated from hazardous tree removal works is now available free of charge at the Alexandra Resource Recovery Centre.

Bring your trailer, wear closed-toe-footwear and note that you will need to load the mulch yourself.

Get in touch

5772 0333

murrindindi.vic.gov.au/request
customer@murrindindi.vic.gov.au

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Integrity

Real Estate Yarra Valley



1 Pine Ridge Road, Kinglake West

4 2 1 2570 sqm
\$900,000 - \$950,000



2 Cedar Court, Kinglake West

4 2 8 3291 sqm
\$900,000 - \$990,000



33 Victoria Road, Kinglake

4 2 5 1551 sqm
\$890,000 - \$950,000



2 Tommy Hut Road, Kinglake West

5 3 8 5 acres
\$1,800,000 - \$1,950,000

